

Caucus seeks State Police civilian review board

By Ralph Siegel

TRENTON (AP) — The Legislative Black & Latino Caucus has added its weight to the pressure on Gov. Christie Whitman to establish an independent civilian oversight of the State Police.

The caucus said Thursday that it wants an appointed board to investigate citizen complaints about troopers independently of the State Police and the Whitman administration.

"Because the crisis seems to be so deep, because the problem seems to be so deep, nothing short of a civil review board is appropriate," said Assemblyman Joseph Charles, D-Hudson, chairman of the group of 19 black and Hispanic lawmakers.

Whitman remained reluctant. While formally welcoming this and other recommendations issued in the caucus' 27-page report released on Thursday, the governor held to her position that Attorney General John Farmer is an adequate civilian monitor of the troopers.

By endorsing civilian oversight, the caucus added its

'Because the crisis seems to be so deep, because the problem seems to be so deep, nothing short of a civil review board is appropriate.'

weight to the same call that has been made for months by the Black Ministers Council of New Jersey, the American Civil Liberties Union and other agencies critical of the State Police.

Farmer and his predecessor, Attorney General Peter Verniero, issued reports confirming the racial profiling problem and internal racial discrimination within the ranks. Their reports have promised to implement changes, such as beefing up internal affairs investigations and ordering commission officers to accept complaints. Farmer has promised increased vigilance by his office, which always has had direct authority over the superintendent of the State Police.

Part of Farmer's plan is to name a special assistant attorney general to monitor the troopers full time. The Whitman administration is hopeful these steps will satisfy the U.S. Justice Department, which in April threatened the state with a civil rights lawsuit, triggering settlement negotiations intended to avoid a court fight.

The Black & Latino Caucus's report came after a series of three public hearings it held in April to hear from witnesses who claimed they were subjected to rude and discriminatory treatment by troopers.

Charles said the caucus will attempt a fourth hearing on Aug. 30 to hear from troopers now that a regulation barring public comment has been thrown out by a Superior Court judge.

The caucus report included several new, sharper proposals Thursday. They demanded a new law to make racial profiling a criminal offense, and called for a permanent special prosecutor to handle those cases.

The lawmakers also took a shot at Assembly Speaker Jack Collins and Senate President Donald DiFrancesco, saying the caucus had to do its work on its own. "All efforts by the caucus to address these issues were met with indifference, if not outright resistance, but the Legislature's presiding officers," the report said.



CITY NEWS

Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983

King probe incites fury Black organizations band in support against feds

By Collie J. Nicholson

Support for boxing promoter Don King continues to gain momentum as the National Bar Association became the latest, and perhaps the most powerful organization, to take up the gauntlet in support of the promoter, who is being investigated by the U.S. Justice Department for his alleged role in fixing the ranking of fighters.

The National Bar Association issued a resolution at its national convention in Philadelphia, scoring the government for what it calls "a pattern by federal prosecutors to over-investigate and over-prosecute prominent black leaders."

One of the nation's most respected professional organizations, it is the largest national association of predominantly African American lawyers and judges with 17,000 members in 37 affiliated chapters throughout the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, Africa, and the United Kingdom.

The minority lawyers had a copy of their resolution sent to Attorney General Janet Reno.

The resolution was signed by the NBA's president Attorney Beverly McQuary Smith of New York.

The move by the NBA carries particular weight in view of the fact that the body seldom takes on an issue that involves a single individual or that involves a personal cause.

Earlier, the NAACP, the Congressional Black Caucus and the Black Leadership Forum, all voiced support for King.

The NAACP, at its national convention in New York, endorsed a strong resolution for the promoter, and the Black Leadership Forum, an organization made up of 39 of the country's leading black groups, sent Attorney General Janet Reno a formal request for a meeting to discuss the issue.

Both organizations contend that the probe is "racially motivated" and concur that "action should be taken to end the probe."

The Congressional Black Caucus urged the Attorney General to conduct an in-house Justice



Promoter Don King and National Bar Association President Harold Pope stand together at the NBA Convention in Philadelphia.

Department probe — headed by Assistant Attorney General Eric Holder, who is black — to determine "if the continuing investigation of King is racially motivated."

Ironically, it is King, widely regarded by the U.S. Justice Department as the "Don King Man," who professes a special attachment for his country almost

daily, that is being given the backhand by the government.

King still toasts America's greatness when viewing his continued success, in spite of the mistreatment from the U.S. Justice Department.

King maintains that America is, indeed, the greatest country in

the world. "What I have accomplished could not have been done anywhere else," he said.

It is probably a tribute to Don King's greatness that some of his perceived problems likely evolved out of envy by rivals in the sport, the NBA noted at the convention.

Bradley promises new health care plan



Bill Bradley

By Norma Love

NASHUA, N.H. (AP) — Democratic presidential hopeful Bill Bradley recently said he is preparing a health care proposal that will put doctors back in charge of making health care decisions.

The former New Jersey senator said his plan would provide close to universal coverage. Bradley gave no details, but said he will release his plan next month. "You put the doctors back

in charge of health care," he told more than 100 voters at a campaign stop in Nashua.

He said bureaucrats should not be telling doctors what to do. He said his idea includes better use of information to drive down medical costs, with strong emphasis on preventing health problems. Bradley said the plan is "totally new" from both the universal health care plan backed by the Clinton administration six years ago and a compromise he worked on as a senator that died for lack of support.

"The compromise operated under certain assumptions. It's six years later," he said. Dr. Paul Rodriguez, a gynecologist from North Andover, Mass., applauded Bradley's announcement. Rodriguez said he is supporting Bradley because he's an honest man with integrity, no warts in his background.

"These past seven years have been a black hole," Rodriguez said. For the most part, Bradley took a soft-key approach to the day's campaigning, spending more time listening than talking at stops in Nashua, Merrimack and Portsmouth.

"It's just the way I am, paying respect to voters," he told supporters.

Bradley outlined broad themes he would like a Bradley presidency to accomplish. "I'd

like to preside over a country at peace," he said.

He also said he believes it is critical to protect the environment, to create an economy that helps all Americans, not just a few.

This vision also is for every child to have a chance to achieve success, he said. "Democracy for a lot of Americans is a lie. There's nothing there," he said.

'Democracy for a lot of Americans is like a thermostat. They turn the dial and nothing happens.'

Bradley said that is because of how money flows to politicians and is why he backs reforming campaign finance laws.

Bradley said he is modeling his campaign to fit what he believes should be done — refusing contributions from political action committees.

That means his contributions are from individuals at \$1,000 or less per person, he said. "That's the way we have to be to be credible," he said.

One person asked Bradley how he would help the downtrodden who don't believe they can prosper. "You have to, as the leader of the country, reach down to where they are and let them know they count," he replied. Another asked his position on school vouchers.

"I don't think school vouchers are the answer to the problems of public education," he said. "I have a deep commitment to kids in poor districts."

One woman pleaded with Bradley to help dairy farmers hold onto their farms. "We're really desperate," she said.

Bradley said he is not an expert in dairy farming, and asked if she would be willing to talk to him with a group of other farmers to see what might be done.

At his second stop, Madden's Ice Cream in Merrimack, Bradley asked two boys for some unusual help.

The two, C.J. Baker, 12, and Steve Gaughan, 13, promised to put a homemade, autographed Bradley sign in their tree house.

In exchange, Bradley asked them to see if they could encourage visitors to support him.

In Portsmouth, Bradley led a roundtable discussion on the city's efforts to provide safe schools and teach respect.

\$260,000 in state grants to spur home ownership



Cardell Cooper, Assistant HUD Secretary

By Glida Rogers
Staff Writer

Housing and Urban Development Assistant Secretary for Community and Planning Development Cardell Cooper and Congressman Donald Payne recently announced at a press conference held at St. Matthew A.M.E. Church in Orange, new HUD housing and counseling grants made available to help thousands of families in New Jersey become homeowners.

"We're working closely with lenders, the housing industry, and non-profit groups to increase homeownership in New Jersey," said Andrew Cuomo, U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary.

"Our actions will create new jobs for construction workers and others in the housing industry, will strengthen New Jersey's economy, and will improve the lives of families offering them new housing opportunities," Cuomo said.

The funds allocated throughout the state totaling \$260,378 are earmarked to help local housing counseling agencies in the state to counsel first-time

'Our actions will create new jobs for construction workers and others in the housing industry, will strengthen New Jersey's economy, and will improve the lives of families offering them new housing opportunities.'

homebuyers, homeowners and renters facing financial difficulties and other housing-related problems.

In addition, the organizations will help people, including minorities and people with disabilities, to become more aware of homebuying opportunities.

The following agencies received grants: New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, Trenton, received the largest amount of \$79,440; Citizen Action of New Jersey, Hackensack, \$42,225; Jersey Counseling and Housing Development, Camden, \$39,650; Somerset County Coalition on Affordable Housing, Somerville, \$30,000; Housing Coalition of Central New Jersey, New Brunswick, \$25,000; Mercer County Hispanic Association, Trenton, \$15,000; Paterson Coalition for Housing, Paterson, \$14,188; Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, \$11,325; Genesis Housing Corporation, Woodbury, \$3,550.

Mayor Mimi Harkins, Executive Director of the New Jersey Citizen Action Phyllis Salowe-Kaye, and HUD State Coordinator Diane Johnson, also joined Cooper and Payne at the press conference.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

EAST BRUNSWICK — The Home Depot Hardware Store hosts a free "How-to-do" seminar on installing a tetro tile light. 7 p.m. (732) 257-2800.

EAST BRUNSWICK — The ZanyBranny Store hosts its production of Dr. Seuss classic story "A New Year's Mother." State Hwy. 15, 11 a.m. (732) 651-0002.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

EAST BRUNSWICK — The Home Depot Hardware Store hosts a free "How-to-do" seminar on decorating with color. 7 p.m. (732) 257-2800.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

EAST BRUNSWICK — The Home Depot Hardware Store hosts a free "How-to-do" seminar on plant care. 7 p.m. (732) 257-2800.

SCOTCH PLAINS — The annual John Shipp Memorial Golf Tournament takes place at the Sheekamaxon Country Club. Call (908) 322-5486 for time and information.

NEWARK — The Newark Downtown District and the Newark Municipal Council presents *Genesis International at Military Park*, part of the Sweet City Summer Luncheon Concert Series. 12 p.m. (973) 739-1600.

NEW YORK — The Museum of the City of New York presents an exhibit on East Harlem and the impact of Paul Robeson through Aug. 23 p.m. (212) 534-1672.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

EAST BRUNSWICK — The Home Depot Hardware Store hosts a free "How-to-do" seminar on painting plant fixtures. 7 p.m. (732) 257-2800.

NEWARK — The Newark Public Library hosts a poetry series for children entitled "Sensations" at the library's Centennial Hall. 11 a.m. (973) 733-7788.

JERSEY CITY — The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. New Jersey Chapter presents "A Masked Affair" Dinner. Cruise aboard the Spirit of New Jersey. The ship will depart from Liberty Landing Marina at Liberty State Park. 8:30 p.m. (201) 434-1029.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center hosts a birthday for seniors on the sport of golf at Scotch Hills Country Club. 1:30 p.m. (908) 753-3506.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

HOLMDEL — The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation will feature Paul Drew, author and former combat infantryman. Vietnam Era Educational Center, Exit 116 off the Garden State Parkway, adjacent to the PNC Bank Arts Center. 7 p.m. (732) 356-0033.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

PRINCETON — The Metropolitan Tenon African American Chamber of Commerce hosts its Second Annual Golf Classic at the Princeton Country Club. 10 a.m. (609) 393-6933.

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Neighborhood Empowerment Program presents a community forum on the needs and concerns of Plainfield at the Richard Towners Senior Room. 7 p.m. (908) 226-8031.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

NEWARK — The Newark Downtown District and the Newark Municipal Council presents the Black Widow Blues Band at Military Park, part of the Sweet City Summer Luncheon Concert Series. 12 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

SOMERSET — The Second Annual East Coast Large Scale Train Show takes place at the Garden State Exhibit Center through Aug. 29. 10 a.m. (732) 469-4000.

MONDAY, AUGUST 30

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Center hosts a film festival to all seniors. 12:30 p.m. (908) 753-3505.

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Annual John Shipp Memorial Golf Tournament takes place at the Sheekamaxon Country Club. Call (908) 322-5486 for time and information.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center hosts a birthday for seniors born in August. 1:30 p.m. (908) 753-3505.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

CRAWFORD — Union County College hosts a workshop on financial aid. 6 p.m. (908) 709-7141.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

BROOKLYN, NY — The Annual West Indian Day Parade is an honored tradition that brings all the Caribbean Islands together for this joyous celebration. It starts at Eastern Parkway and ends at Flatbush Ave. Call (718) 467-1797 for time and information.

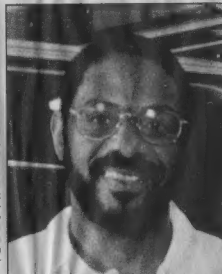
Miss Universe shows love to Hale House



NEW YORK — Mpule Kwelagobe (left), MISS UNIVERSE 1999, recently visited the babies of HALE HOUSE, part of her work to spread AIDS awareness. Mpule is the first delegate from her home country of Botswana to enter the MISS UNIVERSE Pageant, and she won. HALE HOUSE is America's oldest and best known independent agency caring for babies born addicted to drugs, alcohol, tobacco and sometimes infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. This year their celebrating 30 years of service to the community. Dr. Lorraine E. Hale (right), co-founder, introduces some of the children to Miss Universe.

Lucent employee helps people "Dress for Success"

BERKLEY HEIGHTS — Lucent Technologies associate Clifford Jeter, recently coordinated Lucent's "Dress for Success" clothing drive at the headquarters of our Business Communications Systems unit in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. The drive was part of Lucent's annual Day of Diversity. Mr. Jeter's efforts and the cooperation of several associates resulted in nearly 140 suits collected from national, non-profit organizations, which distributes the clothing to low-income men and women who are entering the job market or seeking to improve their employment options.



Girl Scouts issue Gold & Silver awards for achievement



MONTCCLAIR — The Girl Scout Council of Greater Essex and Hudson Counties recently presented its top awards to girls who displayed outstanding achievement in scouting. Established in 1988 the Gold Award is the highest award attainable for Girl Scouts. The award is presented to Senior Girl Scouts who express a special commitment to themselves, the community and the world and its future. North Bergen High School Junior Vanessa DeJesus (left) received a 1999 Gold Award for her Camp Skill project, which taught other scouts how to live in the outdoors. Among those receiving Girl Scout scholarships were Brenda Petersen (right) of North Bergen High School, a scout for 13 years who will be attending Rutgers University in the Fall and Anne Gleave (center) a senior at East Side High School in Newark, who will attend Lebanon University.

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National Briefs

BLACK FARMERS PROTEST LAND LOSS

WASHINGTON — John Boyd Jr., president of the National Black Farm Association (NBFA), will lead a delegation of farmers and supporters to protest black land loss from discrimination by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) last week in Washington, D.C.

USDA Secretary Dan Glickman must be held accountable along with his employees — civil rights director, farm service agency undersecretary, and office of general counsel for civil rights — who are further depriving black farmers of their land in USDA inventory and processing of black farmer complaints who have opted out of the class action lawsuit.

This is the last Civil Rights Movement of the 20th century. We will enter the new millennium without our land," Boyd said. Call 800-940-9099.

CBQF HOSTS ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE SEPT. 15-18

WASHINGTON — The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Inc. (CBCF) will hold its 29th Annual Legislative Conference Sept. 15-18 in the District of Columbia's Washington Convention Center. The theme is "Tools for 2000: Planning Our Work - Working Our Plan."

For 29 years, CBCF has brought together the country's most influential leaders to chart the course for Black America during its conferences," said Eva Clayton, chair of the CBCF. "The conference is a four-day event which includes a series of issue forums, workshops and congressional testimony by the members of the Congressional Black Caucus. There are also six major fund-raising events which include a variety of national programs and public policy research."

Registration will gain access to the conference events. This CBCF chair's reception, jazz concert, national town hall meeting, and the breakfast and issue forums. Pre-registration payments must be postmarked sent to: Post Office Box 15670, Washington, DC 20005-0570.

FIRST NATIONWIDE IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN THE CONGO

HARARE (IPS) — For the first time in 40 years, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) will embark on a nationwide vaccination campaign to immunize nearly two million children under the age of five against polio. The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director of Africa, Dr. Benjamin M. Samba, confirmed that all combatants in the DRC conflict had agreed to a cessation of hostilities to ensure the success of the National Immunization Days (NIDs) to be carried out in three phases from now thru Oct. 24. The exercise will be conducted by officials from the Ministry of Health with support from WHO, the U.N. Children Fund (Unicef) and Rotary International.

It is hereby appealing solemnly to all the belligerents to collaborate with us so that we can vaccinate these innocent children," said Dr. Samba appealing to all the warring parties in the DRC to cooperate, so that the vaccination teams will be safe.

HOUSE DENIES FUNDS FOR ARMY TRAINING FACILITY

WASHINGTON (IPS) — The House of Representatives has rejected human rights supporters an unexpected triumph by voting to withdraw funding from the U.S. Army's notorious School of the Americas (SOA), the premier training facility for Latin American military officers.

Despite intense lobbying by the White House, the House voted July 29 by a margin of 230-197 to delete SOA funding — about \$2 million from next year's foreign aid appropriations bill.

Activists had long accused SOA graduates of being among the worst abusers of human rights in Latin America.

"We're overjoyed that the Congress has voted to end funding to the school," said Roy Bourgeois, a Catholic priest and the leader and founder of SOA Watch, an independent group which has waged a 15-year fight to have the facility shut down.

The Pentagon declined comment on the vote, referring all calls to the School at Fort Benning, Ga.

National Conference of Black Mayors and corporate partners create youth programs

ATLANTA — The National Conference of Black Mayors (NCBM) recently announced a new summer recreation and academic enhancement program as a part of its "Urban Youth Strategies" initiative.

Through an affinity agreement with Mount Airy Lodge in Mount Pocono, Pa., and Dallas-based Greyhound Lines Inc., more than 5000 young people from urban and rural communities will benefit from this unique opportunity over the lifetime of the project during the summer months. Mount Airy Lodge, the largest non-gaming resort in the eastern United States, will provide free lodging and meals and Greyhound Lines will provide free transportation.

During this summer, NCBM member mayors in 37 communities across the nation have identified more than 300 young people, ages 12 to 16, to participate in this six-day character building and vacation program. In addition to recreation activities, the youth will participate in conflict resolution, life coping and diversity training.

The Urban Youth Strategies Committee of NCBM, headed by Mayor Donjuan L. Williams of Glenview, Md., developed the criteria for participation, curriculum, and other details of the program. Other mayors who belong to the committee include Mayor Susan Upson Farley of Woodlawn, Ohio; Mayor Lilian K. Bevelly of North Brentwood, Md.; Mayor Vivian Jordan of Capitol Heights, Md.; Mayor Farley serves as



Mayor Jesse Norwood, president of the National Conference of Black Mayors, at a ceremony in Ghana, West African last spring.

the on-site director for this summer's inaugural program at the Mount Airy Lodge facility.

Mayor Norwood, the national president of NCBM, indicated, "This is the beginning of many programs that NCBM will be developing in the coming months."

"As mayors and leaders in our communities, we must redirect the lives of many of our young people and we must make a difference," Mayor Norwood stated.

Headquartered in Atlanta, Ga., NCBM is a nonpartisan, nonpolitical organization that provides technical

460 mayors nationwide.

NAACP demands controller's resignation over alleged remark

UNIONTOWN, Pa. (AP) — A dozen members of the Fayette County chapter of the NAACP are demanding that County Controller Gerald Bukovitz resign after he allegedly made a racist remark. "This situation will not be swept under the rug," said Rev. Robert Spencer Jr., chapter president. "It would be wise for Mr. Bukovitz to step aside and get on with his life. He has absolutely exceeded his limits."

Spence said the NAACP plans a rally at the county courthouse and a protest march through the streets of Uniontown. Bukovitz, who is white, allegedly made racist comments to Sidney L. Bush, the lone black worker in his office, about a black man he knew (and whom Bukovitz hired to work the polls on election day). The man's name also showed up on the

campaign expense report of Mark Roberts, who defeated Bukovitz in the May 18 Democratic primary election. "That controller is a racist. He's got your boss in the back? You know I have never been a racist with you, but a nigger is a nigger, and white people and black people are the same," Bukovitz was accused of saying.

Bukovitz did not immediately return a call from a reporter seeking comment. Previously, he has denied making the remark to Bush, but at least two other employees in the office corroborated the story. Police Associates, the county's personnel consultant, investigated the matter and recommended Bukovitz apologize to Bush, that Bush be permitted to transfer out of the controller's office for the rest of his term and that Bukovitz refrain from making intimidating outbursts.

Bush continues to work in Bukovitz's office. She declined to comment, saying she preferred that the NAACP handle the issue.

Dr. Joyce Royster, an NAACP executive, said the Police report minimized the remark. "They are nullifying the fact that Mr. Bukovitz did something that was disgraceful and infamous," she said, adding she believes he was motivated by "evil intent."

If Bukovitz does not quit, the NAACP will launch a long-term campaign to have him removed, said the Rev. Lee E. Ridgely Jr., chapter treasurer. "We are drawing a line saying this type of behavior is not acceptable in any type of public position," he said. "He has disgraced the public office that he holds." Because Bukovitz lost the primary election, his term in office will end this year.

Gore talks to Rainbow/PUSH, avoiding Bradley's challenge

By Bernie M. Currie

CHICAGO (AP) — Al Gore was up to scaling Mount Rainier, but recently the Democratic presidential candidate did not tackle a direct challenge from campaign rival Bill Bradley on a racial issue.

The vice president spoke at the annual Rainbow/PUSH convention last week in his first appearance since spending a week with the Mount Rainier with his 16-year-old son, Albert Gore II. His speech was rich with Clinton administration-inspired themes. But he made no direct reference to Bradley's comments on Thursday when he told the civil rights organization that Gore should be bringing an immediate end to racial profiling — the targeting of minorities during traffic stops and airport searches.

Gore last month said stopping racial profiling would be his "first civil rights act of the new century," but Bradley said the vice president should push President Clinton to immediately sign an executive order banning such practices.

Gore did call for an end to arrests based on "hollow stereotypes," but did not directly address Bradley's comments. In fact, the vice president has yet to publicly acknowledge Bradley as his opponent for the Democratic presidential nomination.

But Gore drew several standing ovations from the Rainbow/PUSH crowd of about 400 at the city's latefront McCormick Place, mentioning tax cuts for the poor, the Clinton-Gore "Patent's Bill of Rights" and other such themes.

"You better bet that America still needs Affirmative Action," Gore said. Jesse Jackson, president of Rainbow/PUSH, had high praise for Gore, saying "this campaign and his quest will make America better," but he said it's still too early to commit his support to either Gore or Bradley.

"This is the time for candidates to take their case to the people," Jackson said. "They will not get support top-down. They must earn support bottom-up." When asked whether he was interested in being the running mate to Gore or Bradley, Jackson flatly said, "I could not imagine that." Gore thanked the civil rights leader for comforting his family after the death last December of his father, Albert Gore Sr. The elder Gore, also a former Tennessee senator like his son, was a longtime supporter of civil rights and lost a re-election bid after backing the Voting Rights Act in 1965.

Ford defends alma mater's Affirmative Action policies

NEW YORK (AP) — Lawsuits challenging the University of Michigan's use of race in its admissions policies threaten to undermine what is now "the finest educational environment for all students," former President Gerald R. Ford wrote in a column published recently.

Ford, a 1935 University of Michigan graduate, wrote in Sunday editions of The New York Times that the lawsuits threaten to reverse a century of hard-won progress toward racial justice. The lawsuits were filed in 1997 by three whites alleging that the university rejected their applications because of their race.

With the guidance of a conservative legal group, the three are asking federal judges to force the university's main undergraduate college and its law school to ignore race in admissions. The lawsuits are on hold while a federal appeals court decides whether outside groups can intervene. A victory by the plaintiffs would scuttle Michigan's current system, which takes into account nearly a dozen elements — race, economic standing, geographic origin,

athletic and artistic achievement among them — to create the finest educational environment for all students," Ford wrote.

"This eminently reasonable approach, as thoughtful as it is fair, has produced a student body with a significant minority component whose record of academic success is outstanding," Ford said the lawsuits threatened to restore the racial climate of his senior year at Michigan in 1935, when he and his teammates were preparing for a football game against Georgia Tech. "Among the best players on that year's Michigan squad was Willis Ward, a close friend of mine whom the Southern school reputedly wanted dropped from our roster because he was black," Ford wrote. "My classmates were just as adamant that he should take the field. In the end, Willis decided on his own to play. His sacrifice led to me question how educational administrators could capitulate to law prejudice."

The suits challenging Michigan's use of race in admissions threaten to isolate and penalize a new generation of Willis Wards.

Brandy serves as UNICEF spokesperson for youths

NEW YORK — International superstar Brandy, recognized all over the globe as both a successful singer and actress, has been named the first international spokesperson for youth by the U.S. Committee for UNICEF.

As the International spokesperson for youth, Brandy will speak out to help improve the lives of future generations of children living in the developing world.

Her leadership role will influence future generations of adults to commit themselves to volunteerism and improve conditions for children around the world. As Brandy's role grows with the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, she will follow in the tradition of other ambassadors, visiting UNICEF projects abroad to see and experience firsthand the children being served by UNICEF.

In her first function as international spokesperson for youth, Brandy will help raise awareness of the Trickle-Treat for UNICEF campaign.

Established in 1950, Trickle-Treat for UNICEF began in Philadelphia when a youth group collected \$17 in decorated milk cartons on Halloween to help children overseas.

Since then, U.S. children have collected more than \$100 million by going door-to-door with the U.S. Committee for UNICEF's trademark orange collection cartons on Halloween.

"When I was a little girl, I remember carrying my orange UNICEF carton with me as I went Trickle-or-Treat," said Brandy.

"Brandy's commitment to improving the lives of children and giving them a chance to lead healthy lives makes her the perfect person to serve as our International Spokesperson for Youth," said Diane Whitely, vice president of marketing and development at the U.S. Committee for UNICEF.

"She is a terrific role model who will mobilize the next generation of Trickle-or-Treaters to help their peers in the developing world," added Vice President Whitely.

Chamber opposes HUD's plans to sue gun industry

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Chamber of Commerce today sharply rebuffed the Department of Housing and Urban Development for planning to target gun manufacturers with a federal lawsuit designed to fatten the wallets of a few trial lawyers and penalize a legal industry "for the benefit of big government."

"All of American business is at risk if government agencies can tilt the legal playing field so they can achieve their policy and revenue goals," said Jim Wootton, director of the chamber's Institute for Legal Reform, claiming government-sponsored lawsuits strip businesses of legal rights normally available to defendants in civil actions.

"This is not about the gun manufacturers, but about the rule of law," Wootton said. The Wall Street Journal reported recently that HUD was considering joining lawsuits against gun manufacturers, such as the NAACP's suit filed last month. The story suggested HUD has hired outside trial lawyers to help it pursue the lawsuit.

"HUD's plans prove that a revolving door of trial lawyers, colluding with insatiable government agencies, will target industry after industry in their pursuit of money," Wootton said.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation, representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region.



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BUSINESS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

NEWARK — The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) hosts three free important workshops on how to apply for an SBA loan, developing your business and marketing plan and financing your business at Two Gateway Center 15th Floor at 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. (973) 645-6066.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

WASHINGTON — The Most African American Women on Tour conference has a seminar on investment options at the Omni Shoreham, through Aug. 22. Call 1-(800)-560-AWIT (2298) for time and information.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

JERSEY CITY — The New Jersey Chapter of the National Council of 100 Black Women, Inc. hosts a "Masked Afters" dinner cruise and fund raiser about the Spirit of New Jersey at the Liberty Landing Marina in Liberty State Park. 8 p.m. (908) 355-1739.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

ATLANTA — The Most African American Women on Tour conference series returns to the Peach State with a seminar on investing at the Atlanta Hilton and Towers. Call 1-(800)-560-AWIT (2298) for time and information.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

ATLANTIC CITY — The Atlantic City Convention and Visitors Authority hosts the Distribution Computer Expo '99 at the Atlantic City Convention Center. Call 1-(800)-338-4112.

CHICAGO — U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) hosts the Third Annual Entrepreneurial Women's Conference at Navy Pier 7.30 a.m. 1-(800)-USA-SBA for more information.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

ATLANTIC CITY — The Atlantic City Convention and Visitors Authority hosts the Action Sports Register Trade Expo at the Atlantic City Convention Center.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

ATLANTIC CITY — The National Minority Supplier Development Council hosts the 1999 Opportunity 99 at the Topganger Resort & Casino. Call (215) 983-9977 for time and information.

Y2k budgets jump as high as 5-fold

Companies awake to danger, play catch-up

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — Lots of large companies' millennium bug computer budgets have exploded by as much as 500 percent during the first quarter, revealing they may have greatly underestimated the scope of their Y2K problems, a recent study found.

OGE Energy, for example, cited a Y2K budget of \$35 million in its March 31 filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Weiss Ratings study found. That's 483 percent more than the \$6 million OGE disclosed at year-end 1998. OGE has a Weiss Y2K Rating of "low" due to budgeting concerns. Weiss is the only national provider of Y2K readiness ratings.

USX-U.S. Steel Group, one of the 100 largest corporations, nearly doubled

its Y2K budget to \$71 million at the first quarter's end, after budgeting just \$36 million at year-end according to SEC filings. It is rated "below average" for this sudden hike and failing to use almost half the Y2K budget by March 31. Fluor Corp. in Irvine, Calif. "flew" more than tripled its budget to \$55 million.

Even high-tech companies have trouble gauging the cost of Y2K fixes. America Online linked its Y2K budget to \$30 million March 31, more than double the \$8 million estimate of three months earlier and quadruple that of six months earlier. In Irvine, Calif. "flew" more than tripled its budget to \$55 million.

"Estimating Y2K fix-it costs has been touch-and-go for many compa-

nies," said Weiss Chairman Martin Weiss. "The net result is that some are falling even further behind in their Y2K remediation schedules."

On the other hand, some very large companies reported severe reductions in their Y2K budgets, but the cuts followed large earlier budget increases. Eastman Kodak cut its Y2K budget by 31 percent following a 45 percent increase at year-end. Texaco (rated "below average low") reduced its Y2K budget by 43 percent in the first quarter, after a 76 percent hike in the 4th quarter.

Other large firms rated "low" in Y2K readiness include (in descending order of size): Intel, FarmLand Industries, Tenet Healthcare, Lear Corp., Consolidated Natural Gas, Conoco, Owens-Illinois, Selectron, 3Com and others.

The largest nonfinancial firms rated "below average" for their Y2K readiness include AT&T, Texaco, Bell Atlantic, Motorola, PepsiCo, SBC Communications, United Technologies, ConAgra, UPS, BellSouth, International Paper, MCI Worldcom, Atlantic Richfield, UAL Corp. and others.

"Highly" rated large companies include AlliedSignal, American Express, American Stores, J.C. Penney and others. They mostly maintain consistent Y2K budgets and consistent progress in properly using those funds."

Major firms fail to disclose data

The Weiss Y2K Ratings are based on analysis of publicly available data on Y2K expenditures over time and relative to industry peer groups, along with each firm's self-assessment.

Despite SEC guidelines requiring the formation, "Many companies have failed to disclose even the basics, such as their Y2K budgets and expenditures," Chairman Weiss said.

IBM had failed to reveal its Y2K spending, and other major companies that have failed to disclose their Y2K budgets, expenditures or both to the SEC include Boeing and Merck & Co.

"Investors can usually absorb just about any bad news on Y2K, provided it's reported promptly and in small doses," Weiss said. "It's the sudden surprises, typically the result of inadequate disclosure, that (might) cause the most damage to investor sentiment."

Weiss Ratings (800-289-9222, www.weissratings.com) provides financial utility ratings Y2K readiness ratings, on insurers, banks and Savings & Loans as well as nonfinancial companies.

Money Matters

The true value of your dollar

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Remember the adage: A penny saved is a penny earned. Well, these days, the stock market booming and the economy surging, it's more like, "One dollar saved is a \$1.50 earned."

At least that's the message one organization is striving to get across to our youth.

"Feeling confident that you are in control of your money is a lesson that lasts a lifetime," says Cliff Brody, founder and chairman of the Washington D.C.-based company. "It's never too early to start."

Brody formed the company after he had approached an investment firm five years ago with his 8-year-old son's life savings — \$162. Brody walked away from the brokerage in dismay when they told him the two \$75 stocks he wanted to buy would cost \$39 in commission fees — more than a quarter of his son's entire savings.

Having a solid background in banking, he set out on his own to get children better deals for their savings and investments.

"With the future of Social Security in doubt — and Americans barely saving 2 percent of their annual income, on average — it is vital for children to learn the importance of building a nest egg for tomorrow," Brody says.

Research indicates that families in all income groups want better savings opportunities for their children. Parents, schools and civic groups agree, however, that it is next to impossible to persuade children to put their money in a bank or brokerage account. It's even harder when high monthly fees and low interest rates continually act to erode their savings.

With these obstacles in mind, Kids Own America has some clever suggestions for parents wanting to teach their kids how to be smart with their money.

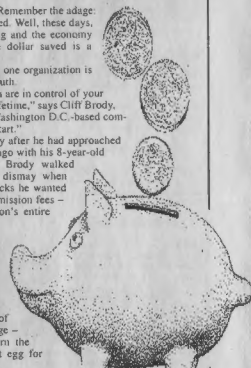
"If your child has a part-time job, offer to match what he puts in a bank or stock account. For example, Mom puts in \$10 or \$15 to match her child's \$25 weekly deposit."

"Add a bonus of at least \$100 — but only if the youngster meets his or her savings goal."

"Team up with the child to encourage the saving habit and show both of you how saving pays off."

Probably the best advantage is that Kids Own America has successfully recruited companies to add to thirty children's accounts. Through exclusive alliances with major airlines, Kids Own America members and their families can trade-in frequent flyer miles and avoid bank and brokerage fees while they open accounts that earn extra money for the children. Air lines include American and Continental.

Under an agreement with Days Inn, now you can accumulate points and redeem funds to contribute to kids' savings. Call (888) KIDS-OWN or www.kidsofamerica.com.



Black PR firms form a national Alliance



NEW YORK — Officers of the African-American Public Relations Alliance, a new 10-member network of African-American-owned PR firms, are, from left, Garrison Jackson, executive VP of Circulation Expert; Chairman Lon Walls, president of Walls Communications; Michelle Flowers, president of Flowers Communications Group; and Bruce Crawley, president of Crawley, Haskins & Rogers. The other charter members are Anderson Communications of Atlanta, Campbell & Co. of Alexandria, Va., Gilbreath Communications of Houston, The Terrie Williams Agency of New York, Tobin & Associates of Los Angeles, Trust Marketing & Communications of Memphis. They aim to give members the greater capacity and reach needed to provide comprehensive PR services to the companies, agencies and trade associations that want to access African-American consumer markets. It is based in Washington, D.C. Contact the Alliance at (202) 333-6181.

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Countdown to 2000

Important Community Announcement

CITYNET 2000

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

— Declaration of Independence

Having celebrated the last Fourth of July of the 20th century, we encourage the citizens of New Jersey, particularly those in black and urban communities, to take a stand for the betterment of our communities by proclaiming our independence from those things that have kept us from reaching our full potential.

We invite you to join with communities across our great state as we sow the seeds of freedom and justice now, to reap a great harvest for ourselves and most importantly for our children. This joint venture for our freedom is CityNet, an initiative of City News Publishing Company.

CITYNET is a deliberate and sustained initiative to build and unite New Jersey's black and urban communities. The three primary objectives are to foster, encourage, and support the broad-based exchange of information, to create and produce a comprehensive array of inclusive statewide programs, and to publicly recognize all levels of achievement, both individual and collective.

By joining together all segments of our state's population in this new initiative, we believe that renewing our efforts for educational excellence, better employment opportunities, healthy lifestyles, affordable quality housing, spiritual renewal, economic development and civic pride, among other concerns, are achievable goals.

From Paterson to Camden, CityNet will serve as the community center which unites the gospel of the church with the reformation of the education system; the voting drives in the political arena to the accumulation of wealth in urban communities. CityNet will reflect the spirit of the city and the people and forces that keep that spirit alive.

Join us in declaring our independence and celebrate the struggles of our ancestors by proclaiming a new vision of the future.

Just sign your name to be published in City News as your commitment to our collective efforts in helping our black and urban communities grow and prosper in the new millennium.

I declare my commitment to the growth and development of our black and urban communities in the new millennium.

Signed _____

Date _____

Please return to City News Independence, 111 Mulberry St., Suite 1F, Newark, NJ 07102 or fax to (973) 642-5454.

Declare your independence.

Local Briefs

Community Access

Institute to hold statewide conference

ELIZABETH — Community Access Unlimited will hold its first Institute program of 1999 scholastic year. The Community Access Institute is an educational program of Community Access Unlimited in Elizabeth. The goal of the Community Access Institute is to provide, support and encourage research, education, and training focusing on services of the mental, moral, physical well-being, and improvement of youth in need and people with disabilities. The topic to be discussed will be "Assault on Civil Rights: Housing, Least Restrictive Services, and Bigotry, People with Disabilities Under Attack." The forum will be held from 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM on Thursday, September 30, 1999 at the Community Access Institute, 88 West Grand Street in Elizabeth. A light buffet lunch will be served. The program will explore high profile cases that reflect the increase in hate crimes and the rising "Not In My Back Yard" philosophy regarding community resource services. There will be a single panel of speakers comprised of advocates and lawyers actively involved in defending the Civil Rights of people with disabilities. Registration for this event is open to the public. There is no registration fee for this conference; however, registration is limited. Community Access Unlimited is a non profit social service agency that has been providing a variety of support services to people with disabilities for over twenty years. To register for this event or for more information about Community Access Unlimited, please call Tricia Lobdell at the following: (908) 354-3040 ext. 272.

Openings still available for Girl Scout Urban Day Camp

MONTCLAIR — There's still time to sign up for the Girl Scouts Summer Scene programs in Essex and Hudson counties. Summer Scene is day camp program offered at eight community sites in the inner city. Campers participate in field trips, swimming, overnight camping for older girls and special events. The program is open to girls age 5 through 12 and the participants do not have to be Girl Scouts prior to joining "Summer Scene offers a great opportunity for young girls to do something different with their summer and learn a little bit about scouting," said Janice C. Lillen, executive director of the Girl Scout Council of Greater Essex and Hudson counties, which is sponsoring the program. Openings for Summer Scene are available at three sites in Newark and one in Hoboken. A nominal fee is required for the program and a free lunch is served daily. For more information contact Geneth Hunter or Pam Holman at the Girl Scout Newark Resource Center (973) 297-0630.

Newark Emergency Services, KidCare team to spread child coverage

NEWARK — Newark Emergency Services for Families (NESF) is now an NJ KidCare enrollment center. The KidCare program provides affordable health coverage for low income families with uninsured children living in New Jersey. KidCare allows parents to select a managed care provider from some of New Jersey's top Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO). "Every child deserves to be healthy," said Jeannette Page-Hawkins, NESF's executive director. "Children need a healthy start, and NJ KidCare provides access for every child to have affordable health coverage. NESF is proud to be partner in NJ KidCare — putting kids first, and preparing them for a healthy future." Interested parents or guardians may complete the enrollment application at NESF located on 982 Broad Street in Newark. For additional information about NJ KidCare, please contact NESF at (800) 696-7063 or (973) 643-5727. For your convenience, NESF offers evening hours. Call for an appointment.

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CEO honored for commitment to minority students

NEWARK — INROADS/Northern New Jersey recently awarded Prudential Chairman-CEO Art Ryan the first Presidential Partnership Award, recognizing a corporation's commitment to minority students.

The award, which honors presidents whose companies have played a leadership role in mentoring and hiring INROADS' students, was presented to Ryan at the company's recent 15th Anniversary Awards Banquet at the ITT Sheraton in East Rutherford.

Master of ceremonies for the program was WNBC News (Channel 4) anchor Maurice DuBois, whose work has been recognized by the Associated Press, as well as the New York and Chicago Associations of Black Journalists.

"Helping future business and community leaders gain hands-on experience in a corporate environment is an important part of professional readiness," said Chairman-CEO Ryan. "For the last 15 years, Prudential has proudly partnered with INROADS and has consistently received highly educated and motivated interns and future employees."

INROADS/Northern New Jersey, Inc. is a Newark-based organization funded through corporate sponsors. Their mission is to place talented minority students in business and industry, in order to prepare them for corporate and community leadership.

"Prudential was one of the first corporations in Northern New Jersey to support the work of INROADS," said Charles L. Story, president-CEO of INROADS. "Prudential has gone beyond making a financial commitment to our organization. They've embraced many of our students and helped them make a successful transition into the corporate world," said Story.

INROADS has 52 affiliate offices throughout the country, more than 7,000 students, and a roster of sponsors that includes most Fortune 1000 companies.

Since 1984, INROADS/Northern New Jersey has had more than 220 students complete internships. The majority of these are currently working as professionals for INROADS/Northern New Jersey sponsors.



WNBC News (Channel 4) news anchor Maurice DuBois (left) was on hand to see Prudential Chairman and CEO Art Ryan awarded the Presidential Partnership Award by INROADS/Northern New Jersey for his service to minority students.

Prudential hosts writers breakfast

NEWARK — Prudential and the National Association of Black Journalists hosted the annual Business Writers Mentor Breakfast at the NABJ's recent Union '99 national conference. The NABJ Business Writers Task Force designed the breakfast for members to network and learn more about specialized topics affecting their beats.



1999 Pulitzer Prize winner Angelo Henderson gave the keynote address at the breakfast.

Pulitzer Prize winner Angelo Henderson, a Wall Street Journal reporter, gave the keynote speech at the breakfast. He pointed out that journalism is a challenging field and advised the journalists to take advantage of the knowledge of others. "Try to grow in each assignment and take time to learn from those in your newsroom, so that when you go, you go on your own terms," he said.

The NABJ, founded in 1975 and driven by 3,000 members in more than 70 professional chapters, is the largest media organization for people of color in the world. Its mission is to support its members with quality programs and services for professional development.

Prudential, with \$375 billion in total assets managed and administered at year-end 1998, is the largest life insurance company in the United States and one of the largest diversified financial institutions in the world. Prudential has a global presence in 30 countries, providing a variety of products and services in the areas of insurance, investments, securities, and real estate to more than 30 million customers.

Supreme Court ends separate fairness appeal in death cases

By Ralph Siegel

TRENTON (AP) — The state Supreme Court said recently that after 17 years there is no longer a need to have a second set of appeals just to decide if death verdicts are fair. The court said the so-called "proportionality review" to test for fairness will be done before, but it will be folded into the first set of appeals that follows every death sentence. The review has been treated as a separate appeal since New Jersey's death penalty law was enacted in 1982. The justices said consolidating the two appellate steps into one might save time and reduce the years between conviction and execution.

However, the same ruling strongly reaffirmed that the court will continue to use a broad proportionality review to check every death verdict for fairness by comparing it with all other suitable murder cases. The cases to be selected for such comparisons include those in which there was no death sentence and those in which prosecutors did not even seek the death penalty.

By saying this, the Supreme Court struck down one end and for all a 1992 law in which former Gov. Jim Florio and the Republican Legislature had tried to limit the scope of such reviews. "The Legislature had mandated a truly limited and fairly useful (practice)," said attorney Lawrence Lustberg. "The court rejected it overwhelmingly." Lustberg had fought for this ruling on behalf of the NAACP and the Association for Criminal Defense Lawyers. He said these types of appeals are the best method for

checking against racism in the system. This ruling on the conduct of death appeals comes one week after the Supreme Court cleared the way for what might be New Jersey's first execution in 36 years.

The court on July 27 rejected convicted killer John Martin's third and final appeal, which had been filed by the Office of the Public Defender against his wishes. An execution date is set for Sept. 22, and officials said it will be carried out unless Martin changes his mind and permits public defenders to file a federal appeal on his behalf. Without his permission, they cannot do so. Dale Jones, who heads the death-penalty appeals staff at the Office of the Public Defender, said the court's decision to merge the

two appellate steps into one will create a needless burden on his lawyers. "The court is asking us to do the same amount of work in a shorter time frame," Jones said. Under current practice, after a death sentence is rendered by a judge, lawyers for the condemned would appeal the case on various grounds pertaining to the trial. Then, if at that same time, Jones' office would have to prepare a direct appeal of the trial and a proportionality review appeal all at the same time. Still, Jones and Lustberg agreed that the court's decision to keep proportionality review as broad as possible is a far more important development, though less of a surprise. Chief Justice Deborah Poritz in February ruled the court would not accept the 1992 law outright but would examine the issue further. Thursday's ruling marks the end of this examination and bars the end of the law once and for all.

Leslie Ann Nelson, so Jones' office never had to file for proportionality review in her case.

But Nelson faces a second sentencing trial, and if given the death penalty again, Jones' office would have to prepare a direct appeal of the trial and a proportionality review appeal all at the same time. Still, Jones and Lustberg agreed that the court's decision to keep proportionality review as broad as possible is a far more important development, though less of a surprise. Chief Justice Deborah Poritz in February ruled the court would not accept the 1992 law outright but would examine the issue further. Thursday's ruling marks the end of this examination and bars the end of the law once and for all.

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Black tour de force

New Jersey: Rooted in African-American Culture

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

With summer drawing to an end and the kids having returned home from summer camp and vacations with family and friends, now is the time to experience New Jersey. Rich in African American culture, across the state from Atlantic to Cumberland County and in between, there are wonderful sights to see. It's an opportunity to give the kids a black history lesson before returning to school, and a time for adults to reflect with pride upon the black experience in New Jersey.

In celebration of his 100th birthday visit the birthplace of Paul Robeson located at 110 Witherspoon St., located in Princeton. Robeson the scholar, athlete, actor, singer and civil rights activist is recognized as one of the state's most prized possessions.

And did you know the church located at 132 West Kinney St., was once the first black hospital in Newark? Community Hospital was founded in 1928, by Dr. John A. Kinney, who at one time was Booker T. Washington's own personal physician.

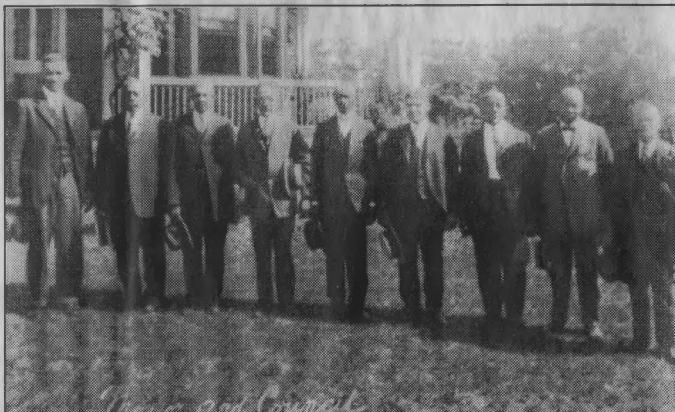
Then there's the all black community in Camden County known as Lawnside. This historic district was established during the late eighteenth century. Once known as "Free Haven," because it is thought to have been a safe haven for those slaves traveling the Underground Railroad is certainly worth a trip. Tours are available by arrangement (609) 546-8172.

In Monmouth County, there's Red Bank, which was put on the map by the legendary band leader and pianist Count Basie, who was born Aug. 21, 1904 on Mechanic Street. An outstanding and prolific journalist T. Thomas Fortune, also, was a native of Red Bank. His birth site located at 94 West Bergen Place was affectionately known as "Maple Hill." He was the editor of three influential black newspapers The New York Globe, The Freeman, and New York Age.

Newark, the home of WBGO pays homage to some of black America's most notable jazz musician, Charlie Parker, Coleman Hawkins, Cal Jader and others to name a few. Jazz is America's original sound of music born from the blues. WBGO, which recently celebrated 20 years of serving the best of "straight ahead" jazz is also a venue that showcases art exhibits that feature some of the legends of jazz. The station which is located at 54 Park Place is exhibiting until Sept. 17 "The Blues in Black and White (Jazz Portraits)," a series of jazz greats in paint, pencil and charcoal.

The office of Dr. James Still, who was the elder brother of the "father" of the Underground Railroad William Still is located at 209 Church Road in Medford. He was one of the state's earliest black medical doctors. Called the "Black Doctor of the Pines," he was also an outspoken person for the black community in South Jersey.

Information courtesy of the African American Heritage guide to New Jersey. To obtain this resourceful booklet telephone 1-800-visit NJ, ext. 9940. Photos courtesy of the Historical Society of Princeton, Institute of Jazz Studies.



The First Mayor, James Hemmings and Council of Lawnside, NJ, assembled shortly after their election circa 1926 on the lawn of the Inman Hotel. The predominately Black town is the state's only such municipality.



The Birthplace of Paul Robeson, the celebrated scholar, athlete, singer, actor and civil rights activist, is located in Princeton, New Jersey.



The Office of Doctor James Still, elder brother of the Underground Railroad's William Still, is located in Medford, New Jersey.



Jacob's Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church is located at Mount Laurel, NJ.

Tour Black America

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

With the Millennium upon us, it is not too soon to start making travel plans for the year 2000. Believe it or not, but there are tours originating across the country as early as February devoted to African-American heritage. This initiative, a partnership with American Pathways 2000 and the U.S. Department of Commerce recently announced tourism itineraries throughout the United States. So before making your travel plans for the 21st Century, you might want to check these sights out.

Midnight Passage Underground Railroad Tour: Originating in Indiana and going on to Michigan, this tour brings to life the incredible history of the flight from slavery of the African-American and their white sympathizers. The tour highlights Underground Railroad stations, homes and the artistic and humanitarian contributions individuals have made to the freedom of slaves in this nation. Interaction, music, art and theater will illustrate the struggles and final joy of thousands who hid by day and traveled by night on their "Midnight Passage."

Day One: The tour departs from Indianapolis. As you begin your journey you will be given a slave's name and identity. From this point on you will be referred to by that name throughout the journey. The day begins with a visit to Levi Coffin's home in Fountain City, Indiana. Coffin was a Quaker who moved to Indiana from North Carolina. He was known as "the President of the Underground Railroad." The tour will take visitors through his home and set the mood for the journey.

Other Tours: Missouri, there is the Freedom's Legacy Follow the North Star Tour offered by the Black Tourism Network of Missouri, along with the Civil Rights Triangle Tour. Louisiana, you will be treated to the Southern Music Tour. Pittsburgh, its Jazz History and More. In New York, its Harlem on My Mind and the African American Heritage being offered by Harlem Spirituals of New York. Georgia, Civil War to Civil Rights. Virginia, Soldier and Slave along with the African American Heritage.

These are just some of the examples of tours relating to the African American legacy in American being featured across the country. Dates vary on some of these tours, therefore you'll need to get in contact with American Pathways 2000 for a list of itineraries and dates at (202) 482-3890. A real historical experience for the entire family.



Harriet Tubman- Midnight Passage Underground Railroad Tour, Indiana through Michigan.



The Freedom Legacy Tour- Follow the North Star, Black Tourism Network in Missouri.



Duke Ellington's D.C. Historic Neighborhood Tour

Heartbeat

CITY NEWS 33

August 18 — August 24, 1999

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

WESTFIELD — The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Of Union County will offer a class on nutrition sites on the internet at the Westfield Auditorium, 7 p.m.

NUTLEY — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the American Red Cross Building 3 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

BRIDGEWATER — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Somerset County Fairgrounds through Aug. 20, 3 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

RAHWAY — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Massie Lafayette Lodge 5 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

PHILIPSBURG — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Warren County Fairgrounds through the Aug. 21, 3 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center hosts a health discussion on seniors 11 a.m. (908) 753-8550.

PLAINFIELD — The Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center hosts a support group for those living with Hemodialysis 7 p.m. (908) 668-2248.

PLAINFIELD — The Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center hosts a support group meeting for men living with prostate cancer 7 p.m. (908) 668-3091.

BARITAN — Brain Injury Support Group of Somerset - Hunterdon County vicinity will meet at the Central Jersey Neurobehavioral Institute 7 p.m. For info or directions call 908-725-8877.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

IRVINGTON — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Irvington Police Department 9 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

NEWARK — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold blood drive at St. James Hospital 12 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

NJ sisters fight for healthy babies

By Carl Chase
Staff Writer

Some 5,000 black women have joined a national campaign to fight infant mortality among African-American by creating extended family support to pregnant teens and women.

In New Jersey, the rate is nearly three times the rate of whites, and The Birthing Project strives to involve more young women in saving their babies.

Newark resident Rolanda Wilkins, national coordinator.

Pregnant teenagers on the East Coast face the same problems as teens all across America, such as poverty, violence and substance abuse in their communities and their lives.

Wilkins said over the telephone from the headquarters in Sacramento, Calif. "Many of them have lost their mothers and other family members who would normally help them make the transition to motherhood. For example, I recently received a referral from a woman who is raising her great granddaughter because both the mother and grandmother are using drugs."

Although the ravages of drugs are a major problem, experts agree that the lack of good prenatal care, information and social support play a big part in birth outcomes.

Many women in the New Jersey Birthing Project are from Newark, East Orange, Maplewood, Irvington, Hillside and Plainfield.

The program matches pregnant young women, "Little Sisters," with older "Sister-Friends" who help them access prenatal care, parenting education and social support.

Stress, whether over being overwhelmed by motherhood or scared to tell parents about a pregnancy, over having a bad relationship with the father or lacking money, leads to many bad birth outcomes. "It's killing our babies," said Marilyn Vines, a volunteer Sister-



Kathryn Hall (left), founder of The Birthing Project, greets her "Little sister," Belinda, and Belinda's baby, Samuel.

Friend-spokesperson "They're not carrying their babies to term. The babies don't make it to their first birthday."

For black women — regardless of your socio-economic status — your risk is higher," said Kameesha Evans of Edison, a graduate student of public health who plans to meet her Little sister from Plainfield High next month. "So this directly affects me," said Evans, a program assistant for the Northern Maternal Child Health Consortium, she belongs to the team produced a major report on the state of black infant mortality in New Jersey.

At the current rate, The Federal Commission on Infant Mortality states, by the end of this century we will have lost more babies than all the soldiers we've lost in combat in WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

Blacks bear the brunt of those untimely deaths.

The U.S. is 24th in the world, which is terrible. Supposedly everyone comes here because we have the most and the best. Other groups — Native Americans, Latinos, even the Asians in California — when they come to our

country, their infant mortality goes up. Vines, who travels the country spreading the word and recruiting Sister-friends, said 15 of every 1,000 black babies born in New Jersey die within a year. For white babies, the number is 5.3. "Even one baby is too many. We're matched with the mothers early on. We help them calm down, de-stress, and work through issues that are creating problems for them and their children."

The answers to the problem of infant mortality are complex," said Kathryn Hall, the founder and national director of The Birthing Project. "But we can get started on the part we do understand. We can help pregnant teens and women identify and act on issues. We can give them the information, assistance and information. We can provide comfort and support, and help them become good parents."

New Jersey is the 19th worst state in infant mortality, and the local Birthing Project needs volunteers and funding, Vines said. "Communities are investing in themselves by helping these women."

Call toll-free, at 1-888-657-9790.

We have survived because of our ability to create extended family, to teach each other and not wait for others to fix our problems," Wilkins said.

Black babies continue to die at twice the rate of white babies

PARAMUS — A December 7, 1998 story that reported on a study completed by John Hopkins University and the National Center for Health Statistics in Chicago announced the good news about longer life and less infant deaths.

But, Kathryn Hall, Founding Director of Birthing Project, USA based in Sacramento, Calif., was not celebrating. In a statement in response to the study Ms. Hall, whose non-profit organization has saved thousands of babies lives since 1992, clarified the statistics.

I am concerned by recent media reports regarding America's decreasing infant mortality rates," Ms. Hall said. "The reports are misleading and they give the impression that we have won

Merger may affect South Jersey's women patients

By Melanie Burney

CAMDEN (AP) — The possible merger of two of the largest hospitals in southern New Jersey could make it difficult for women in the city to obtain reproductive health care services, especially birth control procedures.

In a move that could ultimately change the type and quality of patient care and services in Camden, the parent company of Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center is trying to acquire the financially ailing Cooper Hospital-University Medical Center.

Because Lourdes is a Catholic hospital procedures that conflict with church doctrine, such as abortions, sterilizations and contraceptive counseling, would be banned at Cooper if the merger is finalized.

Cooper, one of three hospitals in Camden, is the only hospital in the city that provides such procedures.

Health care providers and advocates say the takeover could have a devastating impact on women who may be unable to seek those ser-

vices outside Camden, an impoverished city of 87,000. "It'll be a serious loss for that community if those services aren't provided," Elizabeth Volz, president of the National Organization for Women's New Jersey chapter.

Lourdes said it is sensitive to the needs of women's health services in Camden and said traditionally when a Catholic hospital acquires a non-religious hospital some women's services are moved to other facilities. "Being a Catholic-sponsored organization there are a set of morals that we follow," said Bob Stanek, executive vice president of the Mid Atlantic Division of Catholic Health East.

Lourdes' parent company.

"It's something that we will stand firm to and stand true to," Stanek added.

Nationally, 32 Catholic hospitals merged or affiliated with secular health institutions in 1998 according to the Catholic Health Association in Washington, D.C. That trend poses the biggest threat to access to health care.

the battle against poor birth outcomes. While this may be true for some of us, it is not true for specific ethnic groups. The disparity between whites and African Americans, American Indian/Alaskan Natives, Native Hawaiians and Puerto Ricans is alarming.

Specifically, the mortality rate for African American babies remains twice that of Caucasian babies."

The Birthing Project affiliates across the country provide one-on-one support to at-risk pregnant teens and women.

"Birthing Project and other programs that target these at-risk families are continuing to educate our communities about the need for prenatal care while we provide the support required to access it. It would be extremely

helpful if news organizations would remind the public that even though there's good news in general, the disparity in infant mortality remains and continued awareness of the problem can reduce the numbers greatly," Hall said.

African Pride Products has been the sole corporate sponsor of the Birthing Project since 1995. Brian K. Marks, President of A.P. Products, Ltd., distributors of African Pride, added, "We are quite proud of the fact that since our involvement with the Birthing Project, they have grown by 50 percent. Because our awareness efforts have helped this growth we are helping to save babies lives across the country. We are grateful and proud of our continuing relationship."

If you would like to give your opinion on any health tips, fax them to

CITY NEWS AT (973) 642-3080 or mail to:

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Despite what they say about the economy, times can still be tough. They can be even tougher when your employer doesn't provide health benefits for your children. That's why there's NJ KidCare—low cost, quality health coverage for New Jersey's uninsured children and teens. And now NJ KidCare has expanded to cover more kids than ever before. For example, a family of six can make as much as \$78,190 a year and still qualify. You could too.

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NJ KidCare is a program of the New Jersey Department of Human Services. Christine Todd Whitman, Governor

Our heartfelt thanks.

SOLARIS
HEALTH SYSTEM

Solaris Health System would like to publicly thank the 15 original community organizations that joined together to form The Coalition for Cardiac Surgery in Plainfield on behalf of Muhlenberg Regional cardiac surgery program.

Your outpouring of community support and concern is overwhelming. Your commitment provides us with the encouragement we need to keep this fight alive. And your continued confidence reaffirms our feeling that this is right for our community.

On behalf of everyone affiliated with Solaris Health System, we extend our heartfelt thanks for your continuous support. Together, we will bring cardiac surgery to Union County.

Sincerely,

John P. McGee

John P. McGee
President & Chief Executive Officer
Solaris Health System

John R. Kopicki

John R. Kopicki
Executive Vice President
Muhlenberg Regional
Medical Center

The Coalition for Cardiac Surgery in Plainfield
Caribbean American Association of Plainfield • Central NJ Chamber of Commerce • Coalition of 100 Black Women • Concerned Urban Clergy • Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church • El Centro Hispanoamericano • First Park Baptist Church • Friends of Sleepy Hollow • Frontiers International • Latin American Coalition • Plainfield Board of Education • Plainfield Coalition • Plainfield Health Center • Plainfield Strategic Planning Support Committee • YWCA of Plainfield/North Plainfield

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SOLARIS HEALTH SYSTEM

Artz Wednesday

City News B4

August 18 — August 24, 1999

JAZZATHON



Don Braden



Photo by Hill Peppard
Renee Rosnes

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY — Over a dozen jazz giants will perform on the same bill for 10 hours of non-stop jazz, Wednesday, August 25, 4:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m., at Birdland, 315 W 44 Street in Manhattan. The Jazzathon, part of the 1999 Panasonic Village Festival, is a benefit for WBGO 88.3 FM, the metro area's only 24-hour radio station devoted to the presentation and preservation of classic jazz. The event is also part of WBGO's 20th anniversary celebration. Tickets are \$25 (plus a \$10 drink minimum) for all or any portion of the event with proceeds supporting WBGO, a listener-supported public radio station. Tickets are available at the door. Headline performers include pianists Kenny Barron; Dave Burrell with tenorman Odean Pope; Benny Green; Renee Rosnes and Junior Mance with Earl May and Jackie Williams; tenorman Javon Jackson and Hary Allen; Drummer Louis Hayes; vibraphonist Joe Locke; Manhattan Transfer vocalist Janis Siegel; and more all leading their own groups or performing solo. WBGO will broadcast Rosnes' performance live on 88.3 FM.

Sweet City at Night

Come spend your Saturday evenings enjoying the Sweet City at Night Concert Series



The Buck Ram Platters

NEWARK— The Newark Downtown District, Newark's special improvement district (SID) is pleased to present a series of free music performances, part of the Sweet City Concert Series, from August 7 through September 11. The concerts will take place on Saturday evenings starting at 7 p.m., through the five wards in Newark. The artists scheduled to perform rain, or shine, are as follows:

Date	Performer	Place
Aug. 21 7:00 p.m.	Jason "Malletman" Taylor	St. Peter's Rec Center (South Ward)
Aug. 28 7:00 p.m.	Donald Malloy	West Side Park (West Ward)
Sept. 11 7:00 p.m.	The Brower Bros & Randy Johnson & Special Edition	Hank Aaron Field (Central Ward)

Immediately following the Festival of the People on September 18, a season finale concert has been planned featuring The Buck Ram Platters, starting at 7 p.m. at Minish Park.

"Kat and the Kings" take a royal bow

Kat and the Kings, winner of the 1999 Olivier Award for Best New Musical, became the first new musical of the 1999-2000 season when it began previews on August 6 at the Cort Theatre.

David Kramer and Taliep Petersen's Kat and the Kings is directed by Kramer and produced by Harriet Newman Leve and Judith and David Rosenbauer in association with Kramer, Willette Klausner, Richard Frankel and Marc Routh by special arrangement with Paul Elliott, Nick Salmon and Lee Menzies. Opening night is set for Thursday, August 19.

Kat and the Kings is the story of a vocal group whose music knew no racial bounds and whose sound was pure rock 'n' roll. In 1957, Cape Town teens bopped to the new rock 'n' roll music that was heard on records American sailors brought when they docked at the Cape of Good Hope.

Kat and the Kings is the story of Kat Diamond and "The Cavalla Kings," a duo wop harmony group in the style of The Platters, The Coasters and The Drifters.

Set in District Six, the "New Orleans" of South Africa, Kat and the Kings offers a glimpse of the "Cape Coloured" or mixed race community of Cape Town through this story of a talented group of young singers and their struggle for recognition.

Kat Diamond and The Cavalla Kings combined the sounds of American music with a distinctly



Above is the cast of Kat and the Kings, the first new musical of the 1999-2000 season and winner of the 1999 Olivier Award for Best New Musical.

African sensibility. The story is from the point of view of an older Kat Diamond as he reflects on his youthful moment in the spotlight.

Kat and the Kings features an original score of fifths-based rock 'n' roll, pop, jazz, and a dash of kwela (township music) and goema (music typical of Cape rhythms).

The cast of Kat and the Kings includes Jody Abrahams, Loukmaan Adams, Junaid Booyesen, Terry Hector, Alistair Isobell and Kim Louis.

How's about a taste of "Hot Coko"?



Ex-member of SWV, Coko released her solo album, Hot Coko

As a member of the now-defunct New Jil Swing trio, SWV, Coko stood out as the commanding lead vocalist behind several chart-topping hits. Now, with the release of her long-awaited solo debut, Hot Coko, the former choir girl sets out to establish herself as one of contemporary music's leading female vocalists and songwriters.

Born and raised in the Bronx, New York, Coko (Cheryl Gamble) grew up singing in church and eventually would like to come back to gospel music because that's her roots. "I was singing in Hezekiah Walker's Love Fellowship choir when I decided to leave and start singing secular music," explains the 25-year-old songstress.

That's when she teamed up with childhood friends Lelee (Leanne Lyons) and Tay (Tamara Johnson) and formed SWV—an acronym for Sisters With Voices. The trio recorded a demo tape and

shopped it around to various record labels. The tape soon caught the attention of producer Teddy Riley, the originator of the ubiquitous early '90s New Jack Swing sound who played an instrumental role in launching the successful careers of acts like Jodeci and Mary J. Blige. Riley helped SWV craft their debut LP, It's About Time.

Despite the group's popularity and public image as a happy collective of "sisters with voices", Coko says that SWV's success only intensified tensions that had begun to rattle the group. Things were not working out and we were growing apart. The friendship was gone and there was no unity within the group," she explains. "We decided that we were either gonna get it together or we would just go our separate ways," she continues. "We could never get it together, so we went our separate ways."

Instead of brooding over the breakup of SWV, Coko seized the moment as an opportunity to fulfill her lifelong dream of recording a solo album. Hot Coko. Staying true to the heart and soul of R&B, love and happiness are the themes that prevail on Hot Coko.

Having put the ups and downs of the past behind her, Coko is optimistic about her future and excited about the creative freedom that she now has as a solo artist. Hot Coko is undeniable proof that Coko can do good all on her own.



After 15-years, Monk speaks up with "Crosstalk"

T.S. Monk has returned with his Sextet for Crosstalk, a true palette of jazz for the new millennium. As the follow-up to the award-winning Monk on Monk recording, the new CD takes a definitely Monk-ish turn, capturing T.S. in his quest to combine the dynamics of jazz with the movement of funk—not a crossover but by cross-talking between elements.

And yes, that is T.S.'s own vocals on "Just a Little Lovin'" and "Somebody Buy Me a Drink"—the drummer returns to the mic for the first time since his R&B days. Tunes like the intense, percussive "The Black Hole" and coiled "Smile Of The Snake" represent a unique amalgam of styles as traditional jazz instrumentation propels R&B flavored rhythms which, in turn, inspire melodies reminiscent of fusion's best moments "Squeaky Clean" and "You Touched My Heart" pay homage to T.S. Monk's straight-ahead roots, while "A

Touching Affair" utilizes insistent Afro-Cuban percussion to create a sharp contrast to his bluesy, cigarette vocals of "Somebody Buy Me A Drink."

The title track, with its rhythm of the sextets, sums it all up as it seamlessly incorporates styles and genres rarely heard together on one disc, much less one song.

Key to making Crosstalk work are the members of the T.S. Monk Sextet. Regular sextet members Bobby Porcelli (alto sax), Willie Williams (tenor sax), and Gary Wing (bassist) were joined by pianist Ray Galton, who penned the track "Squeaky Clean." Also on that track.

Monk has not sung on a record for over 15 years since his T.S. Monk Band "Bon Bon Vie" days, at first emotionally weighed down by the tragic loss of his father and his bandmates, his sister and girlfriend both died of breast cancer within a year of each other. But then it became

physically impossible. T.S. awoke one morning unable to move a muscle in his face.

He was diagnosed with bilateral Bell's Palsy, an extremely rare neurological condition with no known cause or treatment.

The only cure is time, and T.S. waited five months to regain any use of his muscles. T.S. has not discussed his illness before, choosing to focus on his music rather than his pain. While T.S. considers himself a drummer who sings rather than a lead vocalist, he uses his voice with great maturity and fluidity.



Photo by John Abbott
T.S. Monk

Billboard

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

NEW YORK — WOOD-FM (101.9) presents its "Free Lunchtime Jazz Concert" at the World Trade Center Austin Tootz Plaza. Starring guitarist Earl Klugh. 12 p.m. (212) 414-1019.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

NEW YORK — WRKS-FM (90.7) KISS FM presents "R&B Friday" at the World Trade Center Austin Tootz Plaza. Starring soul band Midnight Star. 12 p.m. (212) 352-5755.

NEWARK — The City of Newark Division of Recreation & Cultural Affairs presents Spirit of Life Ensemble Choir at Military Park, part of the Friday Evening Swing Concert Series. 5:30 p.m. (973) 733-6454.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

NEW YORK — WOOD-FM (CD-101.9) presents its "Free Lunchtime Jazz Concert" at the World Trade Center Austin Tootz Plaza. Starring singer Jon Lucien. 12 p.m. (212) 414-1019.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

NEW YORK — Lincoln Center's "Out-of Doors Festival" presents the New York Baroque Dance Company. Call (212) 975-5046 for time and information.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

IRVINGTON — D-N-D Productions and the Newark Municipal Council presents a CD release party for songstress Dani at Klub Khayyam. 9 p.m. 1-(888)-708-SEEP (2337).

NEW YORK — Lincoln Center's "Out-of Doors" Festival presents tribute concert to John Coltrane and Reggie Workman. Call (212) 975-5046 for time and information.

NEWARK — The Newark Downtown District and the Newark Municipal Council presents the Black Widow Blues Band at Military Park, part of the Saturday City Summer Lunchtime Concert Series. 12 p.m. (973) 733-1800.

NEWARK — The City of Newark Division of Recreation and Cultural Affairs presents R&B singer Lonnue Youngblood at Military Park, part of the Friday Evening Swing Concert Series. 5:30 p.m. (973) 733-6454.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

MILLVILLE — The Gallery of American Craft at Wheaton Village hosts an art exhibit and sale of antiques and crafts. 10 a.m. (802) 825-6500.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Jay Leno live, with music from the Second Anniversary Gala, celebrating NJPAC's second anniversary with an evening hosted by America's king of comedy who welcomes a variety of special music guests. 8 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJAPC.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Bobby McFerrin, solo a capella concert. A Metropolitan area exclusive appearance and an NJPAC debut. This event is part of the AT&T Premier Artist Series. 8 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJAPC.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Latin jazz Festival featuring The Chucho Valdes Quintet and The Danilo Perez Trio. 8 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJAPC.

BROOKLYN, NY — World Festival 2000 returns with a weekend of food, fun and music for the whole family at Fort Hamilton Military Base through Oct. 11. Call (718) 630-4982.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Festival Caribeño Asafuete with Conjunto Folklórico De La Alzanza Dominicana and Viento De Agua at 2 p.m. That evening, Edward Villalaz's Miami City Ballet performs at 8 p.m. Call 1-(888)-GO-NJAPC.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the Edward Villalaz's Miami City Ballet. 3 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJAPC.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents The King's Singers and Evelyn Glennie, percussion. A Metropolitan area exclusive and NJPAC debut. 7:30 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJAPC.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the Brazilian dance group Quasar. 7:30 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJAPC.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Cesaria Evora with special guest Wilmar Rios. 7:30 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJAPC.

"Introducing Dorothy Dandridge," a trailblazer



Halle Berry as Dorothy Dandridge in the upcoming HBO movie, "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge."

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

NEW YORK— Anyone who's read or heard anything about the legendary actress Dorothy Dandridge knows she was helplessly vulnerable to the time of her stardom.

And Halle Berry, who stepped into the starring role as Dandridge triumphed by depicting this message while proving she was unequivocally the right actress for the highly sought after part. Airing on HBO on Aug. 21, at 9 p.m., the film itself though entertaining didn't shed any new "411" on Dandridge's life that hasn't already been told.

She marries Harold Nicholas, who is played by Obba Babatundé, of the famed dance team the Nicholas Brothers, they have a daughter, who is born mentally retarded.

Dandridge, who is the first black actress to be nominated for an Oscar in the best actress category for her role Carmen Jones, has a torrid love affair with the very married white film director Otto Preminger, who is

admirably played by Klaus Maria Brandauer.

Rejected by Preminger because of the interracial thing and dejected by Hollywood for the same reason, Dandridge makes her depressions with prescription drugs and then marries a white nightclub owner named Jack Dennison, who abuses her -that's all folks.

The acting is superb by the entire cast and propels the movie.

However, this is not to say that Dandridge's life wasn't interesting or worthy of being told on the screen, it was.

The movie just didn't reveal anything new. Although, Dandridge's mother Ruby portrayed by Loretta Devine, who has a live-in "lady friend" referred to as Auntie, is totally out of character as anybody's aunt - sexually assaulting Dandridge because she wants to know if she's lost her virginity after returning home from a date with Nicholas.

This indeed is a startling revelation.

All the other stuff in between, focuses on what Dandridge had to endure as a

black actress in a white Hollywood during the '40s and '50s - from having to enter in the back doors of upcity hotels to having a swank hotel drain the water in the pool because the stuck her foot in it.

Earl Mills, (played by Brent Spiner) who is Dandridge's white manager exhibits true love and concern for Dandridge, who he refers to as "Angel Face."

He is in her corner and was in the process of resurrecting her career at the time of her untimely death stemming from a drug overdose at the age of 42.

From retro costumes to the classic show tunes, "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge" will transport you back to a time when Hollywood was really glamorous and Dandridge, despite America's bad karma with the color black, was the epitome of glamour and beauty.

She paved the way for the Halle Berry's and Angela Bassett's, who blacks and whites alike marvel over today as leading ladies. A Hollywood tragedy. A black cinema trailblazer.

Showtime's "Strange Justice"

NEW YORK — Showtime premieres Strange Justice, the story of Clarence Thomas' highly controversial appointment to the United States Supreme Court. Starring Delroy Lindo, Mandy Patinkin, Regina Taylor, Louis Gossett, Jr. and Paul Winfield, the film is scheduled to premiere on Showtime on Sunday, August 29 at 8:00 P.M. (ET/PT).

In ten swift days in October, 1991, Judge Clarence Thomas (Delroy Lindo), a conservative African-American, was confirmed as the 106th Justice of the Supreme Court.

The political and public relations maneuvering of Kenneth Duberstein (Mandy Patinkin), on behalf of President George Bush's administration, managed to override the unexpected testimony of sexual harassment offered by former colleague Anita Hill (Regina Taylor).

In a record 52-to-4 vote in the Senate, the lowest winning margin for a Supreme Court nominee, America's complex ideologies of race and sex were challenged and forever changed.

Directed by Ernest Dickerson, Strange Justice is distributed by Paramount Network Television and executive produced by Steven Haft.



Delroy Lindo (Clarence Thomas), Mandy Patinkin (Kenneth Duberstein), and Regina Taylor (Anita Hill) star in Showtime's, Strange Justice.

Sinbad's Soul Music Festival Part 5



Chaka Khan with Guru

Photo by Marc Joseph

LOS ANGELES - Actor/comedian Sinbad has assembled a dazzling line-up of the world's most acclaimed R&B artists including Smokey Robinson, Chaka Khan, The Stylistics, Roy Ayers, DeBarge featuring El DeBarge, Morris Day and the Time, The SOS Band and The Gap Band for an exclusive pay-per-view entertainment extravaganza titled Kmart Presents Sinbad's Soul Music Festival Part 5. Sinbad's Soul Music Festival marketed for PPV TV by Spring Communications, premieres on Friday, August 20 at 8:00 p.m.(EST) and again at 12:00

Midnight (EST) on Viewer's Choice (Hot Choice, DirecTV, TVN, and EchoStar. From the comfort of their own homes, fans throughout the U.S. can bring home the funk with Sinbad and team rockin' from the tropical island of St. Thomas during Memorial Day weekend.

Host and Executive Producer, Sinbad, debuted three nights of funk and soul at the Lionel Roberts Stadium on the tropical island of St. Thomas during Memorial Day weekend. Highlights of Sinbad's concert festival extravaganza include the opening night showcase featuring Morris Day and

the Time, The Stylistics, and Chaka Khan, followed by Main Stage concerts by Roy Ayers, DeBarge featuring El DeBarge, and The SOS Band. The festival wraps with The Gap Band, Smokey Robinson, and a heartfelt musical tribute to the late Marvin Gaye featuring Eric Benét, Deniece Williams, Jon B., El DeBarge and Kenny Lattimore and Joe.

Pans partied on the beaches and danced under the stars to the festival's roster of gold and platinum Grammy winners and Twentieth Century Funk and soul icons. Festival artists with current releases include: Eric Benét, A Day in the Life: Kenny Lattimore, From the Soul of Man: Chaka Khan, Come 2 My House: Jon B., Cool Relaxed; and Joe with All That I Am.

Hold onto your hats because you are about to be blown away again with the Funk," said Sinbad. "Just when you thought it couldn't get any funkier just when you thought it was safe to go back into the water, here comes along Soul Music Festival Part 5. Watching Smokey Robinson move onstage with the excitement of a teenager that just got his first concert gig is enough to make you wanna holler and throw up both your hands (I think I heard that somewhere before). I have enjoyed making every Soul Music Festival over the past five years, and once again I have to say, it can't get no funkier than this."

African Heritage Network steams up with "Coffy"



Coffy (Pam Grier), a young nurse whose all vengeance; seduces King George (Robert DoQui) a big shot dope distributor and pimp; to later infiltrate the mob through her introduction for George.

NEW YORK — The African Heritage Network's "Movie of the Month" series hosted by film legends Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, presents the explosive broadcast of Coffy. Pam Grier, the undisputed queen of 70's B-movies, is Coffy, a one-woman revenge-consuming hit squad. Like her 90's male successors Jackie Chan, Steven Segal, and Jean Claude Van Damme, Grier provides non-stop action and an assortment of big guns. AFN's "Movie of the Month" series is brought to you by Pepsi-Cola. Coffy airs on WABC, August 17 at 1:40 a.m.

"True, movies like Coffy have their faults, but they serve the purpose of creating a training ground where many of our greatest performers have gotten their start," said Ruby Dee. Sporting a cover girl Afro, hip-hugging pants and form-fitting tops, the statuesque Grier is all vengeance, as she strikes down the hoods, the pushers and the drug kingpins who are responsible for the drug addiction of her eleven-year-old kid sister.

Coffy's ensemble cast includes: Booker Bradshaw as Coffy's love interest; Ruben Moreno as Bradshaw's gangster sidekick; William Elliott, as a virtuous Black policeman; Barry Cahill as a corrupt cop; Robert DoQui as a big shot dope distributor and Allan Arbus as a Las Vegas mobster. Each man will get his just dues from Coffy.

Showtime's 'Linc' to the real world



Photo by Jim Bridges

Linc's stars, Pam Grier, Steven Williams, Georg Stanford Brown, Joe Inosce and Golden Brooks, Daphne Maxwell-Ried and newest cast member Randy J. Goodwin. Last August, Showtime premiered two "No Limits" comedy series and both are back and ready to steam up your television sets.

This edgy ensemble comedy that deals candidly with adult issues from an African-American perspective, brings back more political bantering laugh-filled episodes at one of Washington DC's favorite watering holes. Look out for some surprising storyline twists and famous faces popping into the frame. Linc is created and executive produced by Tim Reid and Susan Fales-Hill. Aired: Sundays at 10:45 P.M. (ET/PT).

Body Language: Stand and be Counted



Your posture and walk says a great deal about you. Slumped shoulders and a shuffle tell the world that you lack confidence and vitality, and given any new project or job, you'll likely blow it. On the other hand, standing erect and walking lively sends out greater signals of success than wearing a custom-made suit. "You should stand as if you have a vertical string running through your body," says Gloria F. Boileau, a California-based communications and image expert whose clients include Rolls Royce, Westinghouse, and the Internal Revenue Service. And what to do with those hands while you're standing around looking so sharp? Many people move them into the "fig leaf," crossed in front of one's private parts; others move into the "reverse fig leaf," with hands

to the rear. Everyone from time to time digs those hands deep into the pants pockets, as if looking for cookie crumbs. "All three of those positions communicate 'I'm uncomfortable,'" says Boileau. Better solution? "If you want people to see you as confident and relaxed—" she says, "then keep your arms and hands ready at your sides, lifting them when appropriate to help you punctuate your speech."

GLOW AT POWWOWS

Most people see meetings as nothing but a tremendous waste of time. That's not true. Whether or not any work ever gets done, meetings provide unique opportunities for people who rarely meet to check each other out—and make judgments about each other's

talents and potential. If you want to look like a smart cookie, someone deserving of responsibility, raises, and promotions, then listen to Ian Traynor: "At meetings, don't sit back in your chair. Sit upright, but try to get relaxed," he says. "Lean forward slightly to make an important point. Look at people (but don't stare) when they are talking—and actively listen to everything they are saying. You want to give the impression that you find whoever is speaking to be the most important, scintillating person on Earth," says Traynor, "even if that person is something less coherent."

Excerpted from *Career Smarts 201 Guiding Principles from the World's Best and Brightest*—by Russell Wild

EMPLOYMENT

ACCOUNTANTS

Trenton, NJ - Staff Accountant to provide full-cycle accounting services & financial reports for various programs, projects, & interagency agreements. Bachelor's degree in accounting, CPA or MBA, or partial thereof preferred. 2-4 yrs. exp. in general private or public accounting, proficiency in Word Perfect, Lotus 123 for Windows & computerized accounting systems. Basic understanding of GAAP-policy to research technical issues in GASB & FASB pronouncements & report to the Board. Salary: \$28,000. Contact: The NJ Economic Development Authority, Diane Zappone, PO Box 990, Trenton, NJ 08625 (609) 292-0383.

AIRCRAFT OPPORTUNITIES

DIESEL MECHANIC
Newark Int'l Airport. General mechanics with diesel & gas exp. Applicants must have valid drivers license, 2 yrs. exp. in work in the field or 1 yr. exp. in shop. Applicants must pass a mechanics test, drug screen & background check. Starting salary: \$10.00 per hour. Contact: COO/ENR Aviation, Debra Joyner at 977-91-5890

AIRCRAFT FUELER

Providing fuel services at Newark Int'l Airport. Applicants must have valid drivers license, legal right to work in USA, 10 yr. Verifiable background, high school diploma. Applicants must pass a mechanics test, drug screen & background check. Starting salary \$8.50 per hour. Contact: COO/ENR Aviation, Debra Joyner at 977-91-5890

ARCHITECTS

Interior & Exterior
Paterson, NJ, 2 to 5 yrs exp. Salary DOE Contact: A-1 Resources, Richard Rios, 81 West End Ave., Somerville, NJ 08876, phone 908-577-1755, fax 908-575-8484

AUTOMOBILE

VEHICLE SERVICE ATTENDANT

Newark Int'l Airport - Service rental cars for customers. Must have valid drivers license in state of residence, 8 yrs. Legal driving exp., satisfactory driving history, must be able to work days, nights, weekends and holidays on a 24 hr. rotating shift. Starting salary \$8.50. Starting salary \$7.45 per hr. Candidates may apply in person at Hertz Rent-A-Car, Employee Relations, East Looper, Newark Int'l Airport, Bldg. 23, Newark, NJ Mon. - Fri. 9-5

PART-TIME BUS OPERATOR

Various locations, Must be U.S. born, have 3 yrs. driving exp. on buses in NJ or 6 months on the license & a good driving record. Applicants must be available for training. \$12.00 per hour. Contact: NJ Transit, Inc., Employee Resources, 3700, 180 Boyden Ave., Maplewood, NJ 07040, fax (973) 378-6481

BANKING

FINANCE OFFICER (BANKING)

Trenton, NJ - Develop & process applications for various financial products, including loans, deposits, bonds, have a thorough understanding of IRS & SEC regulations, organizational structure, and exempt bonds from an accredited college or university with emphasis in finance/accounting, economics, or related field. Must have 3 yrs. exp. in finance or banking, or exp. in federal, state or local economic development organizations. Salary: \$28,000. Contact: The NJ Economic Development Authority, Diane Zappone, PO Box 990, Trenton, NJ 08625 (609) 292-0383

CIVIL SERVICE

1999 FIRE FIGHTER OPPORTUNITIES

NJ Department of Personnel
Announces An Examination for Fire Fighter (see listing (Bilingual in Spanish) and for 85 New Jersey municipalities including:

Atlantic City • Camden City • East Orange • Elizabeth • Haddonfield • Jersey City • New Brunswick • Newark • Passaic City • Paterson • Plainfield • Trenton

Fire Fighter

(Emergency Medical Technician)

Open To Non-Civil Service Residents

Applications are available at many Fire Departments, Public Safety Offices

NJ Employment Office

Our web site: www.state.nj.us/personnel

August 20, 1993 is the last day for file application.

The State of New Jersey is an Equal Opportunity Employer

DATA ENTRY

Telecommunications company in the Wayne, NJ area has immediate openings for exp. data entry operators. Individuals must have 5+ years experience & be flexible to work some evenings & weekends. Call today! A work tomorrow! 724-44-6900

Data Entry/Check Endorsement/Receptionist

Make an appointment with one of our representatives at major business locations. Contact: University students August 20, 1993 is the last day for file application. The State of New Jersey is an Equal Opportunity Employer

HOTELS

Newark Airport Marriott, NJ is seeking the following:

Cocktail Server - Friendly, outgoing, previous cocktail server exp. Must be able to give prompt, courteous service to all our customers, including seating them. Hours are from 6:30 am - 1:30 am.

Front Desk GSA - Individual with strong hospitality & customer service skills. Must be able to work nights & weekends. Looking for a team player. Must be able to do 40 hrs. When they are on a bellman, 1 overnight position available

Housekeepers - Individual with strong communication skills. Must be able to give prompt, courteous service to all our customers, including seating them. Hours are from 6:30 am - 1:30 am.

Restaurant Server - Individual must have some serving experience, strong hospitality & communication skills. Must be able to work a flexible schedule. We are looking for five servers.

Loss Prevention - Individual must have GPH & First Aid certification. Must be able to work overtime & weekends. All time. Must be able to work overnight & weekends. Must be able to work overtime & weekends. Must be able to work overtime & weekends.

Section Attendant - Must have sanitation experience, team player, & food prep exp. Thinking of going into the food service field.

Parking Booth Attendant - Individual must have some cashier exp. friendly, honest, & must be able to work overnight & weekends.

DRA/Bus Stop - Individual with strong communication skills, able to work in a fast pace restaurant, can work under pressure. We need someone that can balance trays. Must be able to work a flexible schedule.

All applicants must have a professional image at all times, show ability to work hard, work for the team company & thrive in a year or more, or as a plus, have a college degree. Contact: Marla Velez-O'Neil at 888-4-MARRIOTT or job resume to 973-504-6147

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

RESEARCHER/SALES/RENTAL

Heat up your career this summer with a new job opportunity. We are currently hiring for several full & part time positions in the following areas:

Administrative • Bank Teller • Customer Service • Data Entry/Check Endorsement • Receptionist

Various locations throughout NJ. Salary commensurate to ability. Experience preferred. Call for resume to 973-504-6147

ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR/TRAINEE

Various locations - Collect tickets/review on the train, help the conductor, train cars as needed, Ref. a high school diploma or G.E.D., customer service & revenues exp. Send or fax your resume to: NJ Transit, Inc., Employee Resources, 3700, 180 Boyden Ave., Maplewood, NJ 07040, fax (973) 378-6481

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER/TRAINEE

Various locations - Successful completion of an intensive 15 month Locomotive Engineer training program will enable candidates to operate commercial trains on NJ Transit's freight & passenger lines. Must have a G.E.D. Basic mechanical & electrical knowledge, the ability to read & comprehend technical drawings, and the ability to handle mathematical calculations. Mechanical background exp. operating heavy equipment is desirable. Candidates should be able to read & understand English. Send or fax your resume to: NJ Transit, Inc., Employee Resources, 3700, 180 Boyden Ave., Maplewood, NJ 07040, fax (973) 378-6481

TELEMARKETER

We're looking for people who think brashly as we do. Differently.

At Bell Atlantic Mobile, the largest provider of cutting-edge wireless services, paging & data communication services, you know we're a company that gets. Yet, what's even better is that we're looking for people who understand our people. We have opportunities in the following areas:

Administrative • Customer Service • Finance Information Systems • Inside/Outside Sales • Legal • Marketing • Telemarketing

We offer competitive salaries, excellent benefits, & the chance to team up with an innovative leader in one of our generation's hottest industries. For consideration, please forward your resume indicating area of interest to: Bell Atlantic Mobile, Human Resources Dept., CN 202 Washington Valley Road, Whippany, NJ 07981, or FAX: (908) 368-8688. No phone calls, please. An equal opportunity employer. Bell Atlantic Mobile

DIVISION MECHANIC ASST.

Various locations throughout NJ - Performing work on the construction, maintenance & repair of the underground transportation & distribution plant. Must be able to pass pre-employment aptitude test & have some electrical exp. Good communication skills. \$11.74/hr. Contact: PSE&G, Emily Velez, 80 Park Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102 fax (973) 622-5388

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS

Carlinz, NJ - Answer customer inquiries. Must be able to pass our pre-employment test. Have customer service exp. in retail, food service, or banking. \$11.00/hr. Contact: PSE&G, Dave Murray, 80 Park Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102 fax (973) 622-5388

SERVICE APPRENTICE

Various locations throughout NJ - Service HVAC equipment in residential & small industrial clients. Must be able to pass pre-employment aptitude test & have some exp. or technical school training. Salary: \$12.74/hr. Contact: PSE&G, Emily Velez, 80 Park Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102 fax (973) 622-5388

METER READER

Various locations throughout NJ - Read gas & electric meters. Must possess a valid driver's license, car & exp. in the field. \$11.74/hr. Contact: PSE&G, Emily Velez, 80 Park Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102 fax (973) 622-5388

APPROXIMATE TECHNICIANS

Northfield Central & Southfield, NJ - Perform routine meter operations using wiring diagrams, field instructions, install, operate & maintain meters. Must pass test. Must be able to pass pre-employment aptitude test & have some exp. or technical school training. Salary: \$12.74/hr. Contact: PSE&G, Emily Velez, 80 Park Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102 fax (973) 622-5388

JOURNALISM

Newark, NJ - Journalist, bilingual. Portuguese, English, Portuguese, must be professional, reliable, highly skilled on the computer, have a good command of the English language, & be able to interview, write, copy. Salary: \$23,400. Contact: Martha Tupa at 908-771-0099

MALL OPPORTUNITIES

Jobs at the Jersey Gardens Mall - Elizabeth, NJ - Major Chris DeLong

(scheduled to open October 1999)

Positions available will include:

Rest/Maintenance • Food Service • Full time & Part time/Entry level • Management

FREE TRAINING available at University Residents

Martha Tupa at 908-658-1142 or Shirley Hays-Davis at 908-658-1148

Interested individuals residing in Union County encourage to apply! RESUMES to:

Jersey Gardens Mall

Job Opportunities Project

c/o Elizabeth Development Company

P.O. Box 832, Elizabeth, NJ 07207

908-658-1142

MANAGEMENT

HOUSING MANAGER

The United Methodist Homes of New Jersey has an immediate opening for an individual residing in Union County encourage to apply! RESUMES to:

Jersey Gardens Mall

Job Opportunities Project

c/o Elizabeth Development Company

P.O. Box 832, Elizabeth, NJ 07207

908-658-1142

ASSISTANT MANAGER

Newark Airport, Tarmac A & B Stations. Develop & direct hourly staff & operations functions. Requires a direct hourly staff & operations functions. Requires a direct hourly staff & operations functions. Requires a direct hourly staff & operations functions.

Requires a professional appearance, must be friendly, honest, & must be able to work overtime & weekends. All time. Must be able to work overtime & weekends. Must be able to work overtime & weekends.

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ASTHMA CARE MANAGER

Evans, NJ - Grade Level 14. Responsible for the management of cases that are identified as high risk asthma. The care manager will ensure cost & efficient management of cases & be able to interview, write, copy. Salary: \$23,400. Contact: Martha Tupa at 908-771-0099

SOCIAL SCIENCE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Newark, NJ - Grade Level 31. Responsible to educate non-complaint members on HMO rules & regulations & cover all cases that are identified as high risk asthma. The care manager will ensure cost & efficient management of cases & be able to interview, write, copy. Salary: \$23,400. Contact: Martha Tupa at 908-771-0099

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COORDINATOR

Newark, NJ - Grade Level 31. Responsible for the coordination of quality improvement activities for HMO. The care manager will ensure cost & efficient management of cases & be able to interview, write, copy. Salary: \$23,400. Contact: Martha Tupa at 908-771-0099

DATA ANALYST

Trenton, NJ - Grade Level 32. To provide intelligent analysis & report on data for management decision making. The care manager will ensure cost & efficient management of cases & be able to interview, write, copy. Salary: \$23,400. Contact: Martha Tupa at 908-771-0099

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS

Statewide locations avail. Long term care exp. State Certification req. Experience in specialty care. Salary: \$10.00 per hour. Contact: Sandra at 908-687-1812

REGISTERED NURSE

Statewide locations avail. Long term care exp. State Certification req. Experience in specialty care. Salary: \$10.00 per hour. Contact: Sandra at 908-687-1812

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Statewide locations avail. Long term care exp. State Certification req. Experience in specialty care. Salary: \$10.00 per hour. Contact: Sandra at 908-687-1812

PROVIDER SERVICE REP

Carlinz, NJ - Answer customer inquiries. Must be able to pass our pre-employment test. Have customer service exp. in retail, food service, or banking. \$11.00/hr. Contact: PSE&G, Dave Murray, 80 Park Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102 fax (973) 622-5388

COUNTER SALES REPRESENTATIVE

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INVITATION FOR BIDS
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK
SET-ASIDE PROGRAM FOR MINORITY AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES
FOR ANNUAL CONTRACTS FOR SUPPLY MATERIALS
The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (NHA) will receive sealed bids from Minority and Women Business Enterprises ONLY for the following material:

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1999 AT 10:00 A.M.
99-813670 PLASTIC BAGS

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1999 AT 11:00 A.M.
99-813630 APPLIANCE REPAIR SERVICE

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1999 AT 1:00 P.M.
99-813660 JANITORIAL SUPPLIES

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1999 AT 2:00 P.M.
99-813650 EXTERMINATING SUPPLIES
All bid packages that clearly indicate the specific applicable bid number submitted in triplicate and will be addressed and received on the above dates by the Contracts Division, Housing Authority of the City of Newark, 500 Broad Street, 5th Floor Conference Room, Newark, New Jersey 07102.

ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1999 AT 10:00 A.M.
99-813672 PLASTIC BAGS
99-813632 APPLIANCE REPAIR SERVICES
99-813662 JANITORIAL SUPPLIES
99-813652 EXTERMINATING SUPPLIES

Bid Specifications for the above are available for pick up at the Contracts Division of the NHA at the add address. Telephone: (973) 273-6502.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any and all bids in the event that there are two (2) bids are received at the designated time of bid opening. The NHA reserves the right to reject any partial bids, and to award at or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the NHA.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK
ROBERT GRAHAM, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
510-15

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

This is to advise the public that the Housing Authority of the City of Newark is holding a public hearing on September 29, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. at the Passaic City Hall, Council Chambers, 330 Passaic Street, Passaic, New Jersey. The purpose of this meeting is to allow our residents, government officials and other interested parties an opportunity to examine and express their priorities and opinions on the Authority's Agency Plan prior to adoption by the Board of Commissioners and submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Draft information is available for review and inspection at the office of the Housing Authority at 333 Passaic Street, Passaic, New Jersey.



Eric Kolbe
Executive Director
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PASSAIC
333 Passaic Street
Passaic, NJ
(973) 365-6330

\$55.36

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in Newark

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Fax: (973) 642-5444

LEGAL NOTICE
HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE
TOWN OF MORRISTOWN

The Morristown Housing Authority is seeking an experienced Financial Accountant for its newly funded HUD program.

Public Housing (470 units): Annual Operating Budget \$2.3 million

Section 8 Rental Assistance Program: 151 certificates, 25 vouchers

Comprehensive Grant Program: \$750,000

Family Investment Center Grant Program: \$215,000

Drug Elimination Program: \$119,000

Please submit written proposals, including a lump sum fee, based on a twelve (12) month contract period, commencing November 1, 1999, indicating specialized experience, qualifications, and capacity to accomplish assignments to: David Gardner, Morristown Housing Authority, 31 Early St., Morristown, NJ 07960, no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 20, 1999.

\$58.20

LEGAL NOTICE
HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE
TOWN OF MORRISTOWN

The Housing Authority of the Town of Morristown is seeking professional services of an Independent Public Accountant to perform audit services of the Authority's public housing program, modernization program, Section 8 program, and the Family Investment Center grant.

The Authority consists of 470 units of conventional housing, 151 Section 8 certificates and a Family Investment Center grant. The Authority has modernization funding in excess of \$7 million. The audit period will be from October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999. All respondents must be familiar with public housing and HUD accounting. A final audit report must be completed and accepted by January 14, 2000.

The audit must be in compliance with all U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development and State of New Jersey Community Affairs requirements. Specification documents can be obtained by calling 973-538-6343. Submit proposals outlining a lump sum fee to Mr. David Gardner, Executive Director, Morristown Housing Authority, 31 Early St., Morristown, New Jersey 07960, no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 20, 1999.

David Gardner
Executive Director

\$71.29

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ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES
Looking for some real go-getters who are ready to excel with a dynamic weekly newspaper? Minimum 3 yrs sales exp., computer skills, excellent communication skills, great organizational skills, solid work history & own transportation are req. Ref. req. Salary: Base-commission. Send or fax your resume to: City News Publishing Co., 111 Mulberry St., Suite 1F, Newark, NJ 07102, or fax to (973) 642-5444.

SALES TRAINEE



Looking for some motivated individuals for an exciting career of sales? Must have the willingness to learn, have excellent communication skills, own transportation, knowledge of word processing & have great organizational skills. Straight salary.
Send resume to: City News Publishing Co., 111 Mulberry St., Suite 1F, Newark, NJ 07102 or fax to (973) 642-5444.

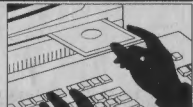
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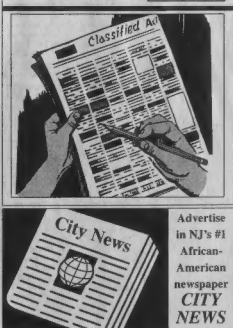
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No top spot for Tapscott, passed over by Knicks

It appears that in addition to the Plexiglas backboards in Madison Square Garden, there's also a pretty sturdy glass ceiling. Last week, Knick assistant general manager Ed Tapscott was rudely awakened to this fact when former Utah Jazz executive Scott Layden was hired over him to become the next general manager of the Knicks.

Gregory Moore

Despite proselytizing about the virtues of diversity at the highest levels of sports management and administration ad nauseum, professional sports franchises have once again illustrated the exasperating gap between rhetoric and reality.

You've heard it before, the rhetoric that is, and it usually goes as follows: If pro teams could find quality minority candidates to assume positions of power in sports organizations, then they would by all means advance the cause of diversity with all deliberate speed.

Now the reality: The Knicks' decision to pass over Tapscott, a qualified African American, shows a disregard for fundamental notions of fairness and the general goal of increasing the number of minority general managers in pro basketball.

Tapscott, who is a lawyer, former sports agent and college coach, diligently toiled as Ernie Grunfeld's assistant general manager for the past few years.

As Grunfeld's assistant, he presumably played a role in helping revamp a Knick team which ultimately and surprisingly reached the NBA finals.

To the extent that this was indeed the case, to that same extent Tapscott should have been given a benefit of any

... the Knicks have made it clear that they are still not prepared to let an African American run an executive office at the Garden.

doubts which may have played a role in preventing him from getting the top front office job.

The sad reality is that the Knicks, like many other sports organizations, are unwilling to hand over the keys to the franchise to an African American. Unfortunately, the decision-making, analytical and professional judgments of African Americans are still viewed with suspicion by owners and operators of professional sports teams.

And although it is perfectly OK for black folks to run up and down the hardwood in the Garden, the Knicks make it abundantly clear they are still not prepared to let one run an executive office at the Garden.

In hiring Layden, the Knicks emulated an "old boy" dynamic that often works to the detriment of people of color.

Layden, the son of longtime NBA coach and former Jazz president Frank Layden, was first given a chance when his father brought him into the Jazz organization 18 years ago.

Although the younger Layden served with distinction after he was named GM of the Jazz, this fact cannot obscure the more critical fact that Layden is the beneficiary of an opportunity distribution network which very often excludes black folks. Layden the father hires Layden the son. Layden the father hires current Garden president Dave Checketts. Checketts leaves the Jazz to join the Knicks, and eventually, he returns the favor to Layden the father by hiring Layden the son.

This is how such networks operate in the real world. It is the type of network that will exclude African Americans until sports franchises look beyond traditional talent sources, and take a chance on black folks who are more than deserving of one.

Top dreams

Seton Hall vying to reach the top with 2000 recruits

By Gregory Moore

Tommy Amaker moved the Seton Hall basketball program one step closer to a return to the upper echelons of the college basketball world when he received a verbal commitment from Philadelphia prep superstar Eddie Griffin.

The importance of the Griffin signing cannot be overstated.

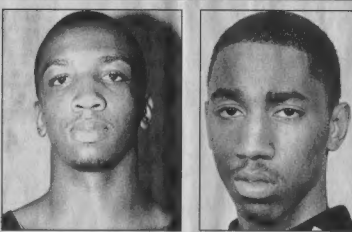
Generally considered the best high school player in the country, this 6'9", 200-lb. center/forward spurned traditional powerhouse programs such as the University

The importance of the Griffin signing cannot be overstated.

(He is) generally considered the best high school player in the country...

of North Carolina and the University of Connecticut to sign with the Pirates' program, which has not enjoyed a great deal of success the last few seasons.

This will surely change. Griffin, who averaged 24 points, 12 rebounds and 8 blocked shots per game as a junior, has been favorably compared to San Antonio



Marcus Toney-El

Eddie Griffin

Spurs star Tim Duncan, and joint a recruiting class which includes New York City point guard Andre Barrett and Seton Hall Prep Marcus Toney-El, who are also ranked among the top 20 prep prospects in the country.

With one scholarship remaining, Seton Hall is expected to bolster a recruiting class that is already regarded as the nation's best by signing 6'5" Jersey City star Rashid Dunbar, who is generally regarded as the second best player in New Jersey behind Toney-El.

It also appears that the word about Seton Hall's best recruiting class since Amaker took over at the helm has caught wind in South Jersey, where Dajuan Wagner, who is a native of Camden and is said to be one of the nation's top prospects, is also thinking about a college future at the Hall.

Wagner averaged 36.3 points per game last year at Camden High School, which over the years has had its share of troubles with the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association — banned from post-season competition for its raucous behavior after the 1997-'98 season, when Wagner was a freshman.

Looking to hop it up with a premier squad, Wagner probably has received the 411 about Coach Amaker from his father, Milt. Milt played against Amaker in the 1986 Duke and Louisville NCAA Championship, which Louisville — not Amaker's Duke Blue Devils — won.

NY Liberty playoff tickets now available



WNBA's New York Liberty

NEW YORK — Tickets to all potential New York Liberty WNBA home playoff games for the 1999 playoffs recently went on sale at Madison Square Garden Box Office, and at all Ticketmaster outlets.

The Liberty could host as many as four post-season games at Madison Square Garden depending on the seed they secure in the Eastern Conference and their overall seed in the WNBA. Individual tickets are priced at \$60, \$35, \$25, \$18, \$15 and \$10, with a purchase limit of four tickets per game, per person. Tickets will be designated as Home Game 1, Home Game 2, Home Game 3 and Home Game 4 and will be used in consecutive order for all home games at the Garden regardless of the series and/or opponent.

The WNBA has instituted a new playoff format for the 1999 season. The top three teams from each conference will qualify for the playoffs based upon their regular season records (tie-break procedures will be applied if necessary). Each conference leader will receive a first round bye as the second and third place teams will play a single-game elimination contest, with the second place team having homecourt.

The winners of the first round games will then host their conference winners in the opening game of their best of three final. Once the Conference Finals are concluded, the two conference winners will play a best-of-three series for the 1999 WNBA Championship. Following the end of the WNBA regular season, playoff team pairings, dates and times of games will be announced.

NCAA decides not to change eligibility requirements

By Steve Herman

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The NCAA Division I board of directors will not change its requirements on freshman eligibility while a federal appeals court decides whether they discriminate against blacks. "Our experience has been it does take awhile to argue these cases and a decision to be reached," said Graham Spanier, Penn State president and chairman of the Division I board, which met here Thursday. "Because it is a live issue, we will be prepared to make any adjustments that are required of us." In March, a U.S. District Court judge ruled the NCAA's Proposition 16 that dictated requirements for freshmen at the association's 302 Division I schools had an "unjustified disparate impact on African-Americans." But the 3rd Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in Philadelphia granted the NCAA a stay while it considers the issue. Arguments are scheduled to be heard Sept. 14.

Under Proposition 16, the NCAA requires freshmen athletes to have a high school diploma and a minimum grade-point average in 13 core academic courses with the GPA contingent on an indexed, sliding scale with a student's score on either the Scholastic Assessment Test or American College Test. But athletes scoring less than 820 on the SAT, or 16 on the ACT, cannot participate, regardless of their other academic credentials. The question the board has been asking itself is whether there is any

compelling reason to change that standard. We concluded there is not," Spanier said. "We think we will prevail on the merits of the case. ... We believe standardized test scores do provide valuable information."

But he said the NCAA will continue to look at data. "We do expect to fine-tune our legislation that relates to initial eligibility from time to time. ... Prop 16 may not be the last word as we hear new data," he said. Spanier also said the board approved a package of recommendations by a basketball study group that would keep freshman eligibility, but require all athletes to complete at least 12 hours of study with at least a 2.0 grade-point average by the end of their first year in college. The proposals, announced several weeks ago, would also encourage all basketball players to attend summer school before the start of their freshman year and require the athletes to be enrolled in at least six hours of study to keep financial aid. The proposals will be sent to the Division I management council for review and then back to the board for a final vote. Spanier said no action is likely before the summer of 2000.

"We are absolutely committed to academic integrity and to the joint concept of students and athletes," he said. The NCAA also announced a matching grant of \$250,000 to go to Division II schools and conferences to promote greater representation of women and minority ethnic groups.

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